

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
APRIL 17, 1962

The Commission met, in executive session, pursuant to notice, at 2:00 p.m. with David E. Finley, Chairman, presiding.

Present were: David E. Finley
Douglas W. Orr
Ralph Walker
Peter Hurd

L.R. Wilson, Secretary
Charles H. Atherton, Asst. Secretary
C.L. Martin, Counsel
Susan E. Bennett, Admin. Secretary
Gilbert Halasz, Recorder

I. ADMINISTRATION

1. Date of Next Meeting

The members set the date of the next meeting of the Commission for May 16, 1962 at 9:30 a.m., with an executive session on May 15 at 2:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the March Meeting

The Chairman requested that Item 5, paragraph one on page two of the minutes of the meeting on March 20th, regarding the proposed Executive Offices and Court of Claims Building on Lafayette Square be amended to read that Mrs. Kennedy, with the approval of The President, wrote to the Administrator of General Services requesting him to direct the joint venture architects to prepare a new design in a "Nineteenth Century Style" rather than an Eighteenth Century Style. The members agreed to this change.

The Chairman also stated that in regard to the minutes of the March 20th meeting, he would like to add a personal statement to the minute on the Commission's tour of inspection of the State Rooms of the White House (page 2), that white marble mantels were found historically in the Red, Green and Blue Rooms and that he favored the use of white marble mantels in the East Room. Mr. Orr and Mr. Walker dissented from this view and expressed their opinions as to what would constitute an appropriate architectural and decorative setting for the public functions of the White House. That discussion is included herein as EXHIBIT A.

Thereafter the members approved the minutes with the changes suggested by the Chairman.

3. Expiration of Mr. Rapuano's Appointment

The Chairman reported that Mr. Michael Rapuano's term as a member of the Commission would expire on June 10, 1962, and asked if the members wished him to write to the President recommending that Mr. Rapuano be appointed for another term. All the members agreed that Mr. Rapuano's service had been valuable to the Commission and the Commission should recommend his reappointment. The Chairman said that he had written Mr. Rapuano asking if he would agree to accept reappointment, but had received no answer as yet. The Chairman said that he would write to the President if Mr. Rapuano agreed to be nominated again.

4. Proposed Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

a. Exchange of Correspondence with the Editor of Architectural Forum

The Chairman related to the members that he had taken steps to correct a persistent assertion by some of the proponents of the design and by the press that there had been sharp division among the members in voting whether to accept or reject the design. He read a letter written to Mr. Douglas Haskell, Editor, Architectural Forum, denying the accuracy of the statement, in the March issue, that the Commission of Fine Arts had withheld approval of the design of the proposed memorial by a vote of 4 to 3, and stressing that the action was unanimous. EXHIBIT B

A letter from Mr. Haskell stated that the March issue had carried only a partial report, in that "it gave only the results which reflected the views of the individual commissioners and not the final form of statement for which unanimous concurrence was obtained." EXHIBIT C

The Chairman's reply emphasized that the vote in February was the only vote taken by the Commission. EXHIBIT D

Mr. Haskell acknowledged the letter and followed it with an editorial in the April issue, again criticizing the Commission's position. EXHIBIT E.

The members felt that the matter of the vote had been clarified, and were inclined to ignore the editorial.

b. Views for Incorporation Into Report to Congress

The Chairman stated that the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission was understood to be preparing to submit its report to Congress in the near future, and that it was presumed that an appeal would be made to proceed with plans for the Memorial disregarding the position of the Commission of Fine Arts. He said he would prepare a statement so that he could testify at any hearing to be held and present the Commission's views

to Congress.

The members reviewed the Commission's statement and agreed that it would be suitable for the purpose, but asked the Chairman to be sure to clarify and stress the vain effort made by the Commission to reach some point of understanding with the designers about studying possible modifications and adjustments. The transcript of the discussion pertaining to this matter has been included as part of the minutes of these proceedings. EXHIBIT F

5. Proposed Executive Order - Status

A report was made by the Counsel for the Commission on the latest draft of the proposed Executive Order which the Chairman had received informally from the Bureau of the Budget on April 12, 1962. EXHIBIT G. He cited a number of changes and additions that had been made to the text. For instance, in Section 2 there was an important change which limited the area within which the Commission would review designs for public buildings and parks to an area described as "1000 feet from the line of the outer edge of the pavement of the traffic lane farthest from the Capitol on the Capital Beltway highway system." In section 3, the Commission would be required to report its recommendations within 60 calendar days from the date it received any plans for review under Section 1 of the proposed Order. The previous Executive Orders were superseded. As no letter of explanation of the proposed changes had accompanied the latest draft, the basis for the changes was not known.

The members were disappointed that the draft order had been so distorted by revision. They concluded that the latest draft should not be accepted, inasmuch as they believed it would diminish rather than strengthen the prerogatives of the Commission. The Chairman was authorized to send a letter to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget requesting him not to circulate the draft for review to the various departments and agencies of the Government or to present it to the President for signature. They also directed that a request should be made for copies or a summary of the reports submitted to the Bureau of the Budget by the various Federal agencies on the draft order circulated in August, 1961. EXHIBIT H

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS-INTERVIEWS

1. Special Cabinet Committee on Federal Office Space - Report on Architectural Standards for Federal Buildings - Status

Mr. Daniel P. Moynihan, special assistant to Secretary of Labor Goldberg, gave the members a report on the progress of the Committee's plans and stated that the Committee intended to recommend that the President establish a Presidential Committee on the rehabilitation of the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue. The Committee would be composed of approximately 12 persons representing various Governmental agencies, such as the National Capital Planning Commission, the District Commissioners, the

General Services Administration, the National Capital Transportation Agency, the Commission of Fine Arts, the Congress, and private agencies such as the American Institute of Architects, the Washington Board of Trade, and the Downtown Progress Committee, etc. The general objectives of the Committee would be to effect a rehabilitation of Pennsylvania Avenue through completion of the unfinished portion of the Federal Triangle, the construction of new federal office buildings and commercial buildings on the north side of the Avenue in a setting of new parks, statuary, fountains, etc. It was explained that the Cabinet Committee thought that no new authority was needed to be created because the necessary authority to bring about the changes exists in the laws governing the governmental and private groups which would be represented on the Presidential Committee.

The members expressed their pleasure that the project was to be undertaken and agreed that the present time was appropriate to start because of the depressed values of most of the commercial establishments along the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue. They felt that the project would be the most important undertaking in Washington since the Federal Triangle Plan, and that the organization of the group which will plan the project is of the utmost importance.

The members expressed some doubt as to whether the proposed organizational structure of the Presidential Committee was the most desirable. They were of the opinion that, rather than rely upon a committee of local federal and civic representatives, the President should be asked to appoint a small Commission of outstanding national architects and city planners and two representatives from the Congress to prepare a master plan. They reminded Mr. Moynihan that this was done in the case of the McMillan Commission and the group which prepared the Federal Triangle Plan. They stressed the fact that the Commission should be composed of only a few men rather than a large group representing conflicting points of view. It was their recommendation that the local agencies should be consulted in the course of preparing the master plan, but that the Presidential Committee should make the final decisions.

Mr. Moynihan stated that he would convey the Commission's recommendation to Secretary Goldberg.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter to Secretary Goldberg setting forth the Commission's views on the matter. EXHIBIT I

2. District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency

Parcel 110c, Southwest Urban Renewal Area-Plans for Development

The members looked at a scale model of the project that had been selected by competition, and noted that the form and arrangement of the buildings greatly resembled projects previously reviewed by the Commission on Parcels 110a and 110b. No objections to the general design were expressed, but it was noted that the model showed a large elevated terrace

between the high rise apartment buildings. The members felt that such paving would be objectionable because of reflected heat and light. They resolved to ask the architect whether this feature could be studied further. No action was taken pending an interview with the designers scheduled for Wednesday.

3. National Capital Planning Commission

✓ Adams-Morgan Northwest Urban Renewal Area - Proposed Land Use Plan

Drawings and diagrams of the proposed project were inspected. No action was taken pending explanation on Wednesday by members of the staff of the Planning Commission.

4. Department of the Army, Heraldic Institute

United States Air Force-Distinguished Service Medal-Proposed Design

✓ Sketches proposed for the design of the obverse of the medal, with suspension bar, were reviewed. Much enamel was contemplated for the design showing a winged arm upholding the coat of arms of the United States, and the words "Distinguished Service" on a curved band in the border. The design supplanted a previous design for the same medal that had been disapproved by the Commission in September, 1961. The members concluded that the design could be improved, and decided to defer final judgement until Mr. de Weldon could see the design at the May meeting of the Commission.

The Secretary was authorized to send a letter to the Commanding Officer of the Heraldic Institute informing him that the Commission would consider the design at the May meeting.

EXHIBIT J

5. National Cultural Center - Status of Design for Seal

✓ The Secretary informed the members that the Heraldic Institute was preparing a plaster study of Design "A", which had been reviewed in a sketch drawing by the Commission at its meeting on March 20, 1962. Thomas Hudson Jones was preparing the new study. A letter prepared after the March meeting which recommended further development of another design was being held pending completion of the new study.

The members agreed to defer their recommendation until the May meeting when they will see the plaster of Design A and when they will have the benefit of Mr. de Weldon's advice.

6. General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service
✓ Howard University, Classroom Building - Proposed Design

The members examined rendered perspective and plans of the

proposed building prior to a discussion of the design on the following day with the architect and a representative of the Public Buildings Service.

They considered that the design of the principal elevation lacked unity. The right hand facade at the entrance to the building was composed of predominately horizontal elements, whereas the remainder of the building was accented by vertical elements. The members resolved to ask whether the treatment could not be restudied to simplify the design by emphasizing the horizontal features throughout. No action was taken pending the conference on the following day.

7. Government of the District of Columbia

a. Department of Highways and Traffic

(1) E Street Expressway - Status

The Chairman announced that Mr. Harold Aitken, Director of the District of Columbia Department of Highways and Traffic, had accepted his written invitation to attend the meeting on the following day to discuss the status of the proposed plans for the E Street Expressway. Mr. Aitken indicated that he would be accompanied by Mrs. Chloethiel Smith, consultant architect for the project. No material had been submitted for study in Executive Session.

(2) Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest-Proposed Repaving of Median Strip

The members examined plans prepared by the Highway Department for repaving Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest when the streetcar tracks are removed. The advice of the Commission was being requested especially upon a proposal to utilize a buff colored brick for a median strip in the center of the Avenue as far as 14th Street, Northwest.

Action was postponed until the following day, after hearing the explanation from the Director of Highways.

b. Department of Licenses and Inspections

(1) Shipstead-Luce Act - Report on Actions on Building Application

The Assistant Secretary reported the actions taken, after consulting with the members of the Shipstead-Luce Panel of Architects, on Shipstead-Luce applications forwarded for review by the District of Columbia Department of Licenses and Inspections since March 20, 1962. This report was dated April 17, 1962 and comprised Appendix 1 of the Order of Business. After noting the individual cases the favorable actions as shown in Appendix 1 were confirmed by the members. Confirmation was also

given of the unfavorable action and recommendation in the case S.L. 2496, 223 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.

(2) Shipstead-Luce Act - Informal Submission - Watergate Town - Report on Hearing Before D. C. Zoning Commission

The Chairman reported that a statement, setting forth the views of the Commission in opposition to the Watergate Town development, had been read at a hearing of the District of Columbia Zoning Commission on April 13, 1962. EXHIBIT K. The Chairman stated that General Clarke, Engineering Commissioner and Chairman of the Zoning Commission had accepted his invitation to attend the meeting on the following day to discuss the matter with the Commission.

The Assistant Secretary pointed out the developer's computation of open space in their plan indicated that 30% more land would be devoted to open space than is required under existing zoning. In arriving at this figure the developers based their comparison on an allowable FAR of six for the entire 10 acre site. He showed the members two drawings which illustrated the difference between the amount of open space which would exist under present zoning regulations with the streets in place, and the proposed development plan including the streets as a part of the site.

EXHIBITS L & M

The members discussed at some length their objections to the project in terms of the height, the architectural expression of the buildings, and the number of people who would be coming to and from the project with its multiple uses of apartments, hotel, office building and other business activities. The members concluded that these objections should be presented to General Clarke the following morning, together with the drawings prepared by the Assistant Secretary.

EXHIBIT N

(3) Shipstead-Luce Act - Informal Submission - Proposed Office Buildings at 15th Street between F and G Streets, N.W. - Letter Objecting to Height

The draft of a letter to the President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia was read stating the Commission's objections to a proposal to amend the building height limitation along 15th Street across from the Treasury Building to permit buildings 130 feet in height. It was explained that under a schedule of building height limitations adopted by the District Commissioners under the 1910 Zoning Act (5 D.C. Code 401 et. seq.) the height was restricted to 80 feet but that some exceptions had been made so that the tallest structures in the area were 110 feet. With a slight amendment the draft was approved and the Chairman was authorized to send the letter.

EXHIBIT O

(4) Expiration of Terms of Present Shipstead-Luce Panel Members

The Secretary reported that the terms of the present

members of the Shipstead-Luce Panel of Architects, Mr. Nicholas Satterlee, Mr. David Yerkes and Mr. Louis Justement, would expire at the end of May, Mr. Satterlee having served 3 years and Mr. Yerkes and Mr. Justement two years. The Chairman authorized the Secretary to determine their feelings about serving longer, and to prepare a list of other architects who might be appointed.

(5) Shipstead-Luce Act - Proposed Revisions to Plat

Mr. Ellis Price showed the members a revision of the Shipstead-Luce Act plat incorporating the areas around certain Federal buildings and grounds, which the Commission had suggested should be included. Mr. Price stated that the revised plat had been approved by the Planning Commission at its meeting on April 5, 1962 and had been sent to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia for their approval as required by the Shipstead-Luce Act.

The members noted that all of the revisions recommended by the Commission in the Chairman's letter of May 6, 1959 had been approved, with the exception of the area adjacent to the north side of Fort Myer. Mr. Price explained that Congress had expressly eliminated this area from coverage prior to passage of the Act, and that the Planning Commission felt that an Act of Congress would be required to include it.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter to the Chairman of the Planning Commission thanking the Commission for its cooperation in the matter.

EXHIBIT P

(6) Shipstead-Luce Act - Draft of Proposed Amendments

Counsel for the Commission reported, as a matter of information, that a draft bill proposing amendments to the Shipstead-Luce Act was being prepared by the staff and that it was hoped that the draft would be ready for consideration by the Commission soon. He discussed briefly some of the proposed amendments, such as a provision that a review would be made of plans for the construction of private and semi-public buildings located within 300 feet of public buildings and grounds to be protected by the Act, and a proposal that the areas adjacent to new public buildings located anywhere within the District of Columbia would be automatically included with the protection of the Act. No action was requested.

(7) Old Georgetown Act, Public Law 808, 81st Congress

(a) Report of Actions Taken on Old Georgetown Act Applications

The Assistant Secretary reported the actions taken, after consultations with the Old Georgetown Panel of Architects, on the

Old Georgetown Applications forwarded for review by the District of Columbia Department of Licenses and Inspections since April 12, 1962. This report was dated April 17, 1962 and comprised Appendix 2 of the Order of Business. After noting the individual cases, the favorable actions as shown in Appendix 2 were confirmed. Confirmation was given to the unfavorable recommendation in the cases of O.G. 3128, 3426 Prospect Street, N.W., and O.G. 3129, 3310 M Street, N.W.

(b) Proposed Office Building, 1044 31st St., N.W.

Revised facades of the proposed building were included in the working drawings submitted with an application for building permit. Some of the suggestions that were conveyed by the staff to the architect in an interview were incorporated. The members considered that the general design was now satisfactory, but that several changes should be adjusted. Recommendations for changes involved the form of the entrance doorway on 30th Street; moving planter box further away from the door on north side; lowering band course at fifth floor to floor line; and more architectural treatment for penthouse walls to bring lowered openings into architectural relationship.

(c) Informal Submission, Office and Apartment Building, 29th and M Streets, N.W.

Further review was given to sketch design submitted informally by architect Nicholas Satterlee for two storey structure. The members considered that the general character of the design did not meet the requirements of Public Law 808. The form and scale of the building were confused. The angle of the tall narrow arcades facing Pennsylvania Avenue and the glazed walls behind it were at variance with each other and unresolved. The members agreed with the Georgetown Board that there was an opportunity here to do a straightforward building that would comply with the law, and not be out of harmony with older buildings in the immediate neighborhood. The Secretary was directed to convey these views on his informal sketches directly to Mr. Satterlee, inasmuch as he had not submitted his sketches through the District Permit Office.

(d) Public Law 808, 81st Congress - Status of Proposed Amendments

Counsel reported that a representative of the joint committee of the Georgetown Citizens' Association had informed him that the bill (S. 2570) proposing amendments to the Old Georgetown Act would be corrected to eliminate the provision giving the Commission of Fine Arts mandatory powers under the Act. He recalled that this matter was discussed at the meeting on February 20th, and at that time the Commission had approved an unfavorable report on S. 2570 because of this provision. It was also reported that the sponsors of the bill have been urging the District Committee to hold a hearing on the bill

in this session of Congress. No action was required.

III. NEW LEGISLATION - REPORTS REQUESTED

Counsel reported that the Commission had received requests from Congress for its recommendations on two bills, H.R. 11180, "To provide that the National Capital Planning Commission shall undertake a study to determine the best possible location for the National Cultural Center", and S. 3127, "To provide for the establishment of a municipal arts council representative of local nonprofit organizations and institutions, including educational organizations and institutions, in the District of Columbia with active programs in the arts, to set aside for such local cultural activities 1 mill out of each \$1.00 of tax revenue of the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes." The members requested Counsel to study the bills and prepare draft reports to be considered at the next meeting.

IV. D.C. ZONING COMMISSION

Proposed Amendments to D.C. Zoning Regulations-Balconies

Counsel reported that the District of Columbia Zoning Commission will soon consider a proposal originated by the National Capital Planning Commission to amend the zoning regulations to encourage the construction of balconies. EXHIBIT Q. He explained that under existing regulations balconies are included in the calculation of the gross floor area, and, under the Building Code, are limited to a maximum projection of 3 feet on streets more than 60 and less than 70 feet wide and to 4 feet from the building line on streets 70 feet or more in width. The proposed change would permit a maximum projection of 6 feet beyond the exterior walls regardless of street widths.

The members stated that they did not oppose the elimination of balconies from the computation of the gross floor area, but maintained that there should be a relationship between the amount of projection and the width of the street. They directed that a letter to the Zoning Commission be drafted to express this view.

EXHIBIT R

V. TAKING AREA FOR GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS - REMOVAL OF LIMITATION

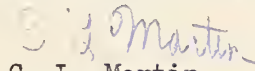
Counsel reported that the Senate Committee on Public Works had reported favorably on a bill, S.3157, 87th Congress, "To repeal subsection (a) of section 8 of the Public Buildings Act of 1959, limiting the area in the District of Columbia within which sites for public buildings may be acquired." He explained that repeal of subsection (a) would permit the Federal government to acquire building sites anywhere within the District of Columbia, whereas the subsection restricts the taking area to the area bounded by

E Streets, New York Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. on the north; Delaware Avenue, S.W. on the east; Virginia Avenue and Maryland Avenue projected in a straight line to the Tidal Basin S.W., on the south; and the Potomac River on the west. The Report of the Committee on Public Works (Report No. 1370, 87th Congress) is EXHIBIT S.

The members agreed that, in the light of the increased demand for more Federal office space and the scarcity of building sites within the present taking area, the change would appear to be necessary and desirable. No action was required.

Thereafter, at 5:50 p.m., the meeting was recessed until the following morning.

Respectfully submitted,



C. L. Martin
Counsel

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
17 April 1962

PM
2:00

1. CONVENE, ROOM 7000, INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

2. ADMINISTRATION

a. Date of Next Meeting: 16 May 1962

Executive Session: 15 May 1962

b. Approval of Minutes of March, 1962 Meeting

c. Expiration of Mr. Rapuano's Appointment

d. Letter from Editor of Architectural Forum Douglas Haskell
reference Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial

e. President's Committee on Federal Office Space - Report of
plans presented to National Capital Planning Commission by
Mr. D. P. Moynihan

f. Proposed Executive Order - Status

3. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS-INTERVIEWS

a. District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency

Parcel 110c, Southwest Urban Renewal Area - Winning Design

b. National Capital Planning Commission

Adams-Morgan Northwest Urban Renewal Area - Proposed
Renewal Plans

c. Department of the Army, Office of the Quartermaster General,
Heraldic Institute

(1) United States Air Force - Distinguished Service Medal,
Proposed Design

(2) National Cultural Center - Status of Design for Seal

d. General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service

Howard University, Classroom Building - Proposed Design

e. Government of the District of Columbia

(1) Department of Highways and Traffic

- ✓ (a) E Street Expressway - Status
- ✓ (b) Pennsylvania Avenue, Proposed repaving of center strip

(2) Department of Licenses and Inspections

(a) Shipstead-Luce Act

- 1. Building Applications - Appendix 1
- 2. Expiration of Terms of Present Shipstead-Luce Panel
- ✓ 3. Proposed Amendments to Shipstead-Luce Act
- ✓ 4. Revision to Official Plat
- ✓ 5. Watergate Town, Report on Zoning Hearing
- ✓ 6. Proposed Office Building at 15th Street between F and G Streets, N.W. - Statement of policy relating to heights of buildings. Draft letter to Commissioner Tobriner.

(b) Old Georgetown Act

- 1. Building Applications - Appendix 2
- 2. Proposed Office Building at 29th and M Sts., N.W.
- 3. Proposed Office Building at 1044 31st St., N.W.
- ✓ 4. Proposed amendments to Public Law 808/81st Congress - Status

4. LEGISLATION

- a. H.R. 11180-9 April 1962-Mr. Widnall-87th Congress-Rpt Requested "To provide that the National Capital Planning Commission shall undertake a study to determine the best possible location for the National Cultural Center."



- b. S. 3127-5 April 1962-Mr. Morse-87th Congress-Rpt Requested
"To provide for the establishment of a municipal arts council representative of local nonprofit organizations and institutions, including educational organizations and institutions, in the District of Columbia with active programs in the arts, to set aside for such local cultural activities 1 mill out of each \$1.00 of tax revenue of the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes."

send letter to members

- c. S. 2644-9/26/61-Mr. Hayden-87th Congress
"To provide for the extension of the United States Capitol Grounds and for other purposes."

send bill to members

5. DISCUSSION

- ✓ a. Proposed amendments to zoning regulations - balconies 4 25
✓ b. Taking area for government buildings, removal of limitation

In an emergency, I will call on you.

MR. ORR: The DAR's are all right with me.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The DAR's interfere with my taxicabs. It is very difficult to get taxis.

MR. HURD: I found a place to crouch but it was absolutely overflowing with a plague of locusts in the form of high school kids who held long caucuses in the corridor of my hotel lasting until 2 o'clock at night.

MR. WALKER: No smoke-filled rooms?

MR. HURD: No smoke filled, no.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The minutes of the last meeting have been circulated.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 1962 MEETING

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I have one slight correction I would like to make in the minutes. Does anyone else have any -- Peter or Ralph?

MR. HURD: I sent in approval of that. I didn't notice anything.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I didn't see it before it went out or I would have made a note of it.

In the first page, in the second paragraph where they say that we visited the White House, they also thought

In an emergency, I will call on you.

MR. CHASE: The time is 11:15.

CHASING WINDY: The time is 11:15.

It is very difficult to get a cable.

MR. HURD: I found a place to get a cable.

absolutely overloading with a plane of loads. In the room of night school kids who held long courses in the control of my staff I started with a clock at night.

MR. HURD: No smoke-filled room.

MR. HURD: No smoke-filled room.

CHASING WINDY: The minutes of the first meeting.

have been circulated.

PROCEEDING OF MINUTES OF MEETING 1901

CHASING WINDY: I have one slight correction I would like to make in the minutes. First, the one who was -- Peter or Ralph?

MR. HURD: I don't know. I don't know.

notice meeting.

CHASING WINDY: I don't know if it was at night.

out of 1 would have made a note of it.

In the first place, in the second paragraph where they say that we visited the White House, they don't say

the colored marble would be more appropriate than pure white marble for the mantels throughout the first floor rooms.

I would like to put in there, the chairman stated that the historic white marble mantels have for many years been installed in the green, blue, and red rooms, and that he favored white marble mantels in the East Room.

MR. WALKER: Actually, there is a question of scale about these things which I think the East Room has a different kind of scale than the other rooms and I don't know whether the original mantels were white marble or not.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I understand they were.

MR. WALKER: They were?

But I mean, there are marbles that are not white, that are not colored.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Yes, I know.

MR. WALKER: That would have a little more character because that was a big room and the white marble mantel, I agree with Doug Orr on this, would absolutely disappear in a room of that kind.

The thing ought to have some character.

There are many Italian marbles that I think could be used in that space that would not be pale. I mean have some strength without, as I understand it, when I last saw them, there were rather strong ---

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The brown marble?

the colored marble would be more appropriate than white marble for the panels throughout the first floor rooms.

I would like to put in there, the chairs, stating that the historic white marble would have been used, but that been installed in the living room, the bedroom, and that he favored white marble panels in the rest of the house.

Mr. W. L. Hall: - actually, there is a question of scale about these things which I think the architect is a little - ent kind of scale than the other rooms and I don't know whether the original panels were white marble or not. CHAIRMAN WILKINSON: I understand they were.

Mr. WILKINSON: They were?

But I was in, there are marble in the rest of the house that are not colored.

CHAIRMAN WILKINSON: Yes, I know.

Mr. WILKINSON: That would make a little more uniform.

sector because that was a big room and the white marble, I agree with you, but on this, would be a slight discrepancy in a room of that kind.

That thing ought to have some character.

There are many Italian marbles that I think could be used in that space that would not be pale. I mean some some strength without, as I understand it, when I first saw them, there were rather strong.

CHAIRMAN WILKINSON: The panel marbles.

MR. WALKER: The brown marble.

Actually, you could get one of these marbles that are more lavender in quality that would be more pleasant.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Yes.

MR. WALKER: I am rather against the white marble because the white marble is -- in the first place the room itself is not as colorful as the Blue Room and the Red Room, and so on and so forth, so your white marble stands out in contrast.

There ought to be some contrast.

MR. ORR: It needs architectural accent.

MR. WALKER: Very definitely.

I am not so sure that the mirrors should not be put back. There were mirrors above, because the mirrors are a well established way of increasing the scale of a larger room.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I agree with that.

MR. WALKER: Actually the accent of something that is quite lovely in its color quality -- I have not been looking at marbles in a long time, but one time I knew damn near all the marbles that came out of Italy that you could do this with, but there are marbles that would be lovely in that sense with the mirror above it and give that sense of reflection of light from the chandeliers and all this other

MR. WALKER: The brown marble.

Actually, you could get out of these windows that

are more favorable in quality than would be some of the

CHAS. WALKER: Yes.

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looking at mirrors in a long time, but one time I know of

that all the mirrors that came out of Italy that you could do

this with, but there are mirrors that would be lovely in that

sense with the mirror above it and give the sense of ex-

pression of light from the ceiling and all that sort of

thing which makes for a gay occasion.

Actually, I think what is happening there is, they have gone a little bit crazy.

MR. ORR: They have washed out everything.

MR. WALKER: They have gone crazy on the idea that they are going to have -- I say this off-white business to an extreme. I don't think it ought to be that off-white. It ought to be colorful.

In a room like this where you are liable to have handsome clothes, people dressed up, things like that, the more reflection you can get out of the mirror quality and out of the reflection of the chandeliers, the more gay it is going to be.

It is one thing the French did very, very beautifully.

Always we must remember that this is a French house in many ways and we copied the thing, but I think that this idea that this is a very formal room filled with gay parties, with beautiful women and handsome clothes, men dressed up with their white ties and their decorations, and so forth, the sense of reflection is more important on the gaiety of the room and not to be so washed out as Doug Orr says, that it lacks character.

It must have some character.

ending which makes for a very occasion.

Actually, I think we are in a position where we are

have some little bit crazy.

Mr. WILKINSON: They have been out of the country.

Mr. WILKINSON: They have been out of the country on the fact that

they are going to have -- I say this off-white matter to

an extreme. I don't think it ought to be that off-white.

It ought to be colorful.

In a room like this there are people who are

handsome clothes, people dressed up, things like that, the

were reflection you can get out of the mirror quality and out

of the reflection of the chandeliers, the more you get it

going to be.

It is one thing to have a room that is very beautiful

Mr.

Always we must remember that this is a special room

in many ways and we copied the thing, but I think that this

idea that this is a very formal room filled with things like

with beautiful women and handsome clothes, men dressed in

with their white ties and their decorations, and a room

the sense of reflection is more important on the quality of

the room and not to be so washed out as Doug. One of the things that

at these chandeliers.

It must have some character.

In none of these rooms that I know of in the past, and I have gone through a good many of these rooms in Europe, ever lack something of glitter. They have not been washed out. A little gold thing here and there around the room have given the sense of reflection, of an order, reflection of a diamond, a reflection of all this thing -- this kind of quality is what that room should have.

This is a room for very formal occasions as well as informal ones, but when people are dressed in their best, you know one of the nice things about our modern world is that we haven't forgotten how to dress for times, in our time.

Even the Russians come up with white ties on occasion.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: There are so few occasions when one can do it.

MR. WALKER: That is the room to do it in. The room should be built around that idea.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I agree with you. It is a great pity those gilt mirrors are not there.

Of course, they may come back in time.

MR. WALKER: She ought to be persuaded that she doesn't know what is happening to that house. She is washing it out a little bit. I watched that thing over the air. I was intrigued by it. I think she did a very marvelous job.

In none of these rooms I was at in the past,
and I have gone through a good many of these rooms in London,
never lack something of glitter. They have not been
out, a little gold thing here and there around the room
have given the sense of reflection, or in other, reflection
of a diamond, a reflection of all this thing -- that thing
of quality is what that room should have.
This is a room for very formal occasions and well
as informal ones, and when people are dressed in their best,
you know one of the nice things about our modern world is
that we haven't forgotten how to dress for times, in our time,
even the husband come up with wife like on
occasion.
CHAIRMAN FINLEY: There are a few occasions when
one can do it.
MR. WALKER: That is the room to do it in. The
room should be built around that room.
CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I agree with you. It is a great
big, those gilt mirrors are not fancy.
Of course, they may come back in time.
MR. WALKER: She ought to be persuaded that she
doesn't know what is happening in that house, and is watching
it out a little bit. I watched that thing over the air.
I was intrigued by it. I think she did a very marvelous job.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Yes, she did a job.

MR. WALKER: Nevertheless the thing got^{out}/that this seems to be a museum instead of a place to live.

MR. ORR: Too much of a matter of so-called interior decoration.

MR. WALKER: Without understanding what the decoration is for.

MR. HURD: One thing bothered me a little bit, one room, the big oval room, where there was imitation marble. I think that seems a little ---

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The East Room. They have painted them.

MR. ORR: Painted the rooms which have marble.

MR. HURD: Underneath is real marble? Why did they do that?

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I understand they have secured a marble mantel but you can get one, not four alike.

MR. ORR: We went into that pretty carefully at the time and no one could establish the fact that there ever had been white marble mantels in that room.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Probably white wood.

MR. ORR: No.

MR. WALKER: Never wood, I am sure of that.

MR. ORR: Apparently marble, but no one could ever

CHILMAN FINLEY: Yes, and also...

MR. WALKER: Nevertheless the fact is that this

seems to be a museum instead of a place to live.

MR. ORR: Too much of a matter of fact, I believe

interior decoration.

MR. WALKER: Without understanding the description

tion is for.

MR. HURD: One thing bothered me a little bit, one

room, the big oval room, where there was built into marble.

I think that seems a little --

CHILMAN FINLEY: The last room. They have painted

them.

MR. ORR: Painted the room which was marble.

MR. HURD: Underneath the marble? With old grey

do that?

CHILMAN FINLEY: I understand from what you said

marble mantel but you can get only, not round like.

MR. ORR: We went into that pretty carefully at the

time and no one could establish the fact that there ever had

been white marble mantels in that room.

CHILMAN FINLEY: Probably white wood.

MR. ORR: No.

MR. WALKER: White wood, I am sure of it.

MR. ORR: Apparently marble, but no one could ever

determine what color marble.

Billy Delano, who is very insistent on Spanish marble -- it is a red marble, really ---

MR. HURD: That is underneath that paint?

MR. ORR: Been used for those color accents. I agree with him.

MR. HURD: Earth red marble.

MR. WALKER: Never have any fires in them, do they?

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: They have fires in other rooms. I don't know about this one.

MR. HURD: It would burn the paint off.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: We thought there should not be those brown ones. They could have been some sort of gray marble, perhaps, or something like that.

MR. WALKER: They are lovely lavender.

MR. ORR: You need color there.

MR. WALKER: There are marbles, also, with accent of gold streak. If I were doing that room, I would have a lot of gold in it, a lot of glitter.

MR. HURD: St. Genevieve.

MR. WALKER: St. Genevieve would do the job.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Maybe those murals can get back. I think the museum quality is largely due to Harry Dupont who is advising about this kind of thing, you know.

determine what color marble.

Jimmy Nelson, who is very intelligent on marble.

marble -- it is a red marble, really --

MR. HURD: That is understood, that is all.

MR. ORR: Been used for these color marble.

agree with him.

MR. HURD: That red marble.

MR. WALKER: Never have any other marble, do they?

CHARLES FINLEY: They have tried in other rooms.

I don't know about this one.

MR. HURD: It would burn the paint off.

CHARLES FINLEY: We thought there would not be

those brown ones. They could have been some sort of

marble, perhaps, or something like that.

MR. WALKER: They are lovely flowers.

MR. ORR: You need color there.

MR. WALKER: There are a lot of, also, with some

of gold streak. If I were doing that room, I would

lot of gold in it, a lot of glitter.

MR. HURD: St. Genevieve.

MR. WALKER: St. Genevieve would do the job.

CHARLES FINLEY: Make those men in a red dress.

I think the museum quality is largely due to the quality

who is advising about the kind of thing, you know.

MR. WALKER: I once asked him where he kept his slippers in his own house, and I once asked him another impertinent question: If he ever had a bill for any piece of furniture that he had helped create himself.

He showed me his bills from all these boys from Newport, all the way down, you see, but he has never helped to create a thing as fine as that and have a bill for it himself.

I asked him that very impudent question. I asked him where he kept his slippers.

MR. HURD: Gloucester?

MR. WALKER: Winterthur.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: We were staying at Winterthur and Harry took us on a tour of those 175 rooms and finally I sat down on the floor. I said I couldn't sit down on any of the chairs so I sat down on the floor.

MR. WALKER: Here were cards laid out as piquet -- isn't that the game? I have forgotten what it was, but here they were all laid out this day -- perhaps it was whist --

I asked Mr. Dupont: "Where do you keep your slippers?"

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: You had to hide your own things during the day.

MR. ORR: I think this ought to be corrected the same way.

Mr. WILKINSON: I once asked him where he kept his
slippers in his own home, and I once asked him whether he
pertinent question: If he ever had a slipper in his
room, where that he had kept it and how he had it.

He showed me his slipper in the room, from
Newport, all the way down, for me, but he had never before
to check a thing as to whether it was his or not for it
himself.

I asked him that very pertinent question, I asked
him where he kept his slippers.

MR. WILKINSON: Gloucester?

MR. WILKINSON: Worcester.

MR. WILKINSON: We were at a party at
and I had took as on a tour of those I had seen in the
sat down on the floor. I said I couldn't sit down on any of
the chairs so I sat down on the floor.

MR. WILKINSON: Here were cards laid out on a table --
I don't think the names? I had forgotten that I had, but I
they were all laid out on the table -- I don't think it was --

I asked Mr. WILKINSON: "Where do you keep your slippers?"

MR. WILKINSON: You had to find out for me.

During the day.

MR. WILKINSON: I think that ought to be corrected the

same way.

13 March 1962

Dear Mr. Haskell:

In the March issue of The Forum, I note a statement that "The Washington Fine Arts Commission killed, by a vote of 4 to 3, Pedersen and Tilney's proposed Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial."

Although such a report was circulated here in the local papers, the members of the Commission of Fine Arts are at a loss to understand this, as it had been clearly stated in the release given to the papers on February 21, that the decision of the Commission was unanimous against carrying out the Pedersen and Tilney design. I enclose a copy of the release and hope you will make this clear in the article which you expect to publish in The Forum next month.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Mr. Douglas Haskell
Editor
The Architectural Forum
Time and Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York 20, New York

Finley	_____
Wilson	_____
Atherton	_____
Martin	_____
Bennett	_____
Luskey	_____
Shaw	_____
_____	_____
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FORUM

March 19, 1962

Mr. David E. Finley, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D.C.

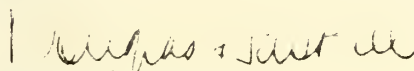
Dear Mr. Finley:

Thank you for your letter of March 13. You are quite right that the quick bulletin in our March issue was less than the complete story about the Commission of Fine Arts' decision in the Roosevelt Memorial matter: in other words, it gave only the results of the ballot which reflected the views of the individual Commissioners and not the final form of statement for which unanimous concurrence was obtained.

Our April issue carries the fact that the Commission announced a unanimous decision against approving the design which was submitted. Unless you request us to do it, we will not publish your letter in view of ^{the} more complete report.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,


Douglas Haskell
Editor

DH:aw

26 March 1962

Dear Mr. Haskell:

I have your letter of March 19 in reply to mine of March 13. I do not understand the reference to the "ballot which reflected the views of the individual Commissioners". There was no ballot taken until the members of the Commission had carefully reviewed the design and unanimously had come to the conclusion they could not recommend it, as set forth in the public statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting.

I do not think it necessary to publish my letter in the next issue of The Forum, provided it is made clear that the decision against approving the design was unanimous on the part of the Commission of Fine Arts.

With many thanks, I am

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Mr. Douglas Haskell
Editor, The Forum
Time and Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York 20, New York

Finley	_____
Wilson	_____
Atherton	_____
Martin	_____
Bennett	_____
Lusky	_____
Shaw	_____
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EXHIBIT D

FORUM

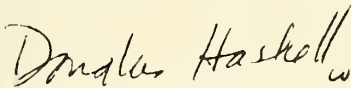
April 11, 1962

Mr. David E. Finley, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Finley:

Thank you for your letter of March 26, and
I think no further discussion is needed at
this juncture.

Very sincerely,


Douglas Haskell
Editor

DH:aw

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: We get so many things that are in the landscape field.

MR. WALKER: He has a very sense of judgment about this, even though I disagree with him at times.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I would like to have your judgment on this business of the architectural forum.

LETTER FROM EDITOR OF ARCHITECTURAL FORUM DOUGLAS HASKELL
WITH REFERENCE TO FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: You remember they had in last month's issue, Mr. Haskell had something about, at the first ballot the Commission of Fine Arts was evenly divided, or four to three, or something, in favor of or against the Franklin Roosevelt Memorial design.

I wrote him a letter and called his attention to the fact that we had taken it under consideration for a month and then had taken a ballot on the 23rd of February and it was unanimously against recommending it.

So then he said he would make such a correction and he said, "I don't feel it is necessary to publish your letter." I said, "It isn't necessary to publish the letter if you make the correction."

I don't think he has made it as clear as he should

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, 1871.

...and the ...

...and I'm not the only one.

"no interest in them now."

have.

MR. ORR: I haven't seen it.

MR. WALKER: The thing about it is that we are much better off than actually saying what did happen because the interesting thing is that all these men or women who say, well, why did you turn it down ---

MR. HURD: Have they really?

MR. WALKER: A good many of them in New York.

I said, no, you know actually in the first place it was a consideration of scale. The scale was just utterly out of this world as far as belonging there. Do you realize what it would mean to you as an individual if you were alone on a football field, because that is what might happen to you in Washington.

They said they had never thought of it that way.

So the scale ---

We took a very definite position of trying to find out whether these men would go along with this, in trying to correct some of these things which we thought were faulty in their design. They were arrogant and they refused to do it.

I think we can take our own position on this. The architect members of this Commission went a long way with these men to find out whether they were willing to improve their design. Is that true?

MR. CHURCH: I haven't seen it.

MR. WALKER: Was there anything about it that we saw?

MR. WALKER: I don't know. I don't know what it was.

MR. WALKER: I don't know. I don't know what it was.

Well, you can try to find it down.

MR. CHURCH: Have you seen it?

MR. WALKER: I don't know. I don't know what it was.

I don't know, you know actually in the first place it

was a consideration of some. The whole was just utterly

of that world as far as religion there. I don't know what

it would mean to you as an individual if you were alone

football field, because that is what it is open to you in

Washington.

They said they had never thought of it that way.

So the whole --

It took a very definite position in the first place.

But whether that man would be willing to take it or not

correct some of these things which we thought were right

their desire. They were intelligent and they wanted to know

I think we can take the one we decided on this.

Selected members of the Commission went to look up with the

men to find out whether they were willing to improve their

design. Is that true?

MR. ORR: Yes, yes.

MR. WALKER: And they refused to. They were arrogant about this. And the scale was wrong.

We questioned the material not because of the fact that they might not be able to do it, because we requested whether it would be possible otherwise to do it. We questioned the feeling for it in relation to the site and each time we asked these men to work with us on this thing they refused us and this is the thing which -- this settles the minds of a good many young men who have asked me about it.

They say, you went that far as to say that you would go along with them if they would try to come along?

I said, we had at least gone to the point of saying, well, come back with another scheme and see whether you can make it work.

MR. HURD: They refused.

MR. ORR: They refused. They are arrogant, stubborn. They did everything possible. That is a thing which I think is wrong in letting this thing get out, that it was our prejudice that stopped it. It was their prejudice that stopped this. We were perfectly willing to go along with them and find an answer to their problem and they didn't take it.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: There is another point that never

MR. WARD: Yes, yes.

MR. WARD: And the same thing, the same thing.

gent about this, and the same way.

We questioned the material that is being put in there.

that they might not be able to do it, because we requested.

whether it would be possible otherwise to do it. We questioned.

ed the feeling for the material to the same way.

we asked them men to work with us on this thing, they wouldn't.

us and this is the thing which -- this settled the mind of a

good many young men who have taken me down.

They say, you want that man to say that you

would go along with them if they would give you the same thing.

I said, we had at least gone to the point of saying,

well, come back with the same thing and the material you want.

make it work.

MR. WARD: They refused.

MR. WARD: They refused. They are arrogant, stubborn.

They did everything possible. That is a thing which I think

is wrong in looking this thing out but that it was out

prejudice that stopped it. It was their prejudice that

stopped this. We were perfectly willing to go along with

them and find in answer to their problem and they wouldn't take

it.

MR. WARD: There is another point that never

has been sufficiently publicized and that is that the design chosen by the jury and approved by the Roosevelt Commission had the addition of a statue or bas relief of Franklin Roosevelt added to it which completely changed the whole character of the design.

MR. WALKER: Fundamentally, we were interested and believed in the fact that this was a dramatic idea. There was no question about it as far as I know, yours and Bill Perry's, and my mind, and Mike Rapuano's, that this was a dramatic idea.

The only thing is that it was too damn bad and wrong and not appropriate to that spot.

In trying to organize the thing to another form along the same principles, perhaps, but another form, this is what they asked, what we asked them and they turned it down. They were the people.

This is a thing which I get a little alarmed at. We are not opened up -- we don't realize the publicity, the fact that we are willing to see change if the change moves into the spirit which we think is appropriate for the city.

Doug Haskell's article, you have to be a Beaux Arts architect is all wrong.

MR. HURD: He was vindictive in that.

MR. WALKER: He will calm down there. He never

has been sufficiently, possibly, and there is not any reason
chosen by the, very and especially of the I recently Commission
and the addition of a section to the subject of the Commission
Provisional subject to its which cancelled, and the whole
of matter of the design.

MR. WATKINS: And possibly, in some instances, it
believed in the fact that this was a domestic issue. There
was no question about it. I know, and I know, and I know, and I know
Parrish, and up mine, and I know, and I know, and I know, and I know
domestic issue.

And only thing is that it was too much for the women
and not appropriate to that point.
In trying to organize the thing to another form
along the same principles, perhaps, but without a new form.
What they asked, what we asked, and they found it done.
They were the people.

This is a thing which I felt a little bit about.
We are not joined up -- we don't realize the position, and
that that we are willing to see changes in the same way as
the spirit which we think is appropriate for the time.
And possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly.

And possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly, possibly.
MR. WATKINS: He was interested in that.
MR. WATKINS: He will come down to see. He is very

realized the fact that this was a football field, either.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I think, too, an important fact that has not been emphasized is that Congress gave them \$100,000 to pay for these designs, fifty to the winning one and \$10,000 each to the other five with directive that the design is to be harmonious with the Lincoln, Jefferson and Washington monument. It was not harmonious.

MR. WALKER: A matter of philosophy.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Congress was very specific there. The Congress said in height, design, and land use. It was not.

MR. ORR: I don't know if it said anything about height.

MR. WALKER: I think that we had a feeling about height.

MR. ORR: I came over the railroad bridge this morning to the south, looked at that site, from which you could see exceedingly well the Lincoln Memorial as well as this site and the smokestack which stands almost in the middle of that plot is about 50 feet high. You visualize something three times as high as that -- it was devastating. I was very happy to have seen that again because ---

MR. WALKER: One of these things that these boys and I said -- I have a whole bunch of youngsters in my office

realized the fact that this was a historical relic, and was.

ORIGINAL TEXT: I follow, and in about the same

fact has not been explained in that connection. The fact
\$100,000 to pay for these designs, and for the other
and \$100,000 each to the other five with respect to the
designs in the connection with the Lincoln, Jefferson and
Washington monuments. It was not historical.

THE WALKER: A matter of philosophy.

ORIGINAL TEXT: Congress was very specific about.

The Congress said in regard to weight, design and size. It was
not.

THE WALKER: I don't know if it was a matter of

height.

MR. WALKER: I think that we had a feeling about

height.

MR. WALKER: I came over the Lincoln design this

morning to the Senate, looking at that case, from which you
could see excellently well the Lincoln Memorial. I would
think that the design which it had made in the
middle of that plot is about 20 feet high. You know also
something these things are right -- it was a mistake.
I was very happy to have seen that design.

MR. WALKER: One of these things that I have

and I said -- I have a whole bunch of suggestions in my office

who were all friends of these boys and they talked to me a lot about it.

I said, "You know one of the things about it is that stonehenge, I think the stones are 25 feet high, the highest. They are monumental. Monumental doesn't have to be 165 feet."

MR. HURD: The relation to surrounding things, and this is the thing which I think these boys have -- Ralph, look at the painting. That could be as vast as the wall and this big, and it is in monumental scale.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I sent out the telegrams to all of you because I think we ought to be on record that the seven members of the Commission unanimously did not recommend the design.

MR. WALKER: The thing that bothers me a little bit about it still, David, is the fact that it looks as if we are trying to be old fogies when we are not trying to be old fogies.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: They are going to call you that, anyhow.

MR. WALKER: I don't mind being an old fogy. I would like to have this thing settled on the basis of the fact that we did try to do a fair job.

MR. ORR: It really was the arrogance of the

There were all kinds of things that were called for me

for about it.

I said, "You know one of the things about it is

that sometimes, I think the answer was to just say, "No."

Altogether. They're monumental. I don't think I can do it.

Let's see."

Mr. Dyer: The real sign is something that's not

this is the thing which I think I can do -- I think

look at the painting. What could be as good as the wall and

this city, and it is in a moment of crisis.

CHAIRMAN: I want out of the chairman to all

of you because I think we ought to be on the right side of

seven members of the commission unanimously, and not to

the design.

Mr. Walker: The thing that I don't like is that it

about it still, I think, as the last time it looked like it

trying to be old things when we are not trying to be old

things.

CHAIRMAN: That's the point to all you that,

anyhow.

Mr. Walker: I don't want being in the room. I

would like to have this thing set on the wall and

that that we did try to do a little bit.

Mr. Dyer: It really was the beginning of the

authors that killed it.

MR. WALKER: That is right.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The reasonable attitude you speak of. They twisted it around to this kind of thing. This is a clipping from the Washington Daily News of the 5th of April.

(Chairman Finley read the excerpt from the Washington Daily News.)

MR. HURD: That is made out of whole cloth.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: This is entirely out of whole cloth.

MR. WALKER: We should correct that.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The Fine Arts Commission has only advisory authority and the Roosevelt Memorial Commission would send an appeal to Congress in a week or two.

When it comes up to Congress I am going to make that very clear to the committees.

MR. WALKER: You should come out with the definite fact that when it comes up to Congress that actually the four or five of us, I think all of us, I am not so sure of Felix -- but the rest of us were willing to listen to these men to find out whether they would make any changes to better their design.

This is the thing which their arrogance, their own

there is a killing of.

MR. WILKINS: That is right.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The committee will not discuss

of. They wanted it known to the kind of thing. There is

a clipping from the Washington Daily News of the 10th of

April.

(The committee will not discuss the matter from the Washington-

ton Daily News.)

MR. HUBB: That is more out of whole cloth.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: This is entirely out of whole

cloth.

MR. WILKINS: We should correct that.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The time with the commission is

only advisory, authority, and the committee itself has no authority

would send an appeal to Congress in a week or two.

When it comes to Congress I am going to make

that very clear to the committee.

MR. WILKINS: You should come out with the committee

that time when it comes up to Congress that actually the time

is time of us, I believe all of us, I am not so sure of that.

-- But the rest of us were willing to listen to that and to

find out whether they would have any chance to get that

done.

That is the thing which their statement, that is

arrogance, killed. They were not willing to meet with us in any way. It was not a question of the Beaux Arts. It was not a question of anything like that. It was a question of a meeting of the minds. They were not willing to meet.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: The net result of trying to be polite and reasonable, they misrepresent it. I am going to say in Congress that there has been an effort to misrepresent the position of the Commission.

There was no vote taken until the 23rd of February.

MR. WALKER: You cannot say we were unanimous. You have to say that we attempted to find a meeting of the minds before we turned it down.

MR. ORR: And when they were not ---

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I cannot explain all that. I am just simply saying that ---

MR. WALKER: Leave it, in my estimation, the position of the fact that we are not willing to see new things ---

MR. WILSON: We can work it out.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I will work out a statement and send it to you.

MR. WALKER: This is something which I think is very important for the history of this Commission, that we are willing to see new things. We just don't turn things down because of the fact that we do not like them, like Jacqueline's

6. The results of the study are discussed in terms of the implications for the development of the child's language.

[illegible]

CONFIDENTIAL - NOT TO BE RELEASED

...and it's better to be a little bit of a fool than to be a little bit of a snob.

ten feet above ground level

19th century.

I am not longer in that position of wanting to see early 19th century, Greek revival, Victorian, or anything else.

I want to find our answer today and I am perfectly willing to try to find it.

MR. HURD: The field of art has to change.

MR. WALKER: That is right.

MR. HURD: We are concerned with appropriateness on the spot and all of us would liked to see that monument and learn how it would adapt itself to the prairies of Kansas or some glen in the mountains, the Rocky Mountains, or something like that -- the Rocky Mountains, but not here.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I agree with you there. It might have been rather an interesting monument in Kansas or on the prairies, but I don't think in Washington where it was designed for.

MR. WALKER: It was a matter wholly of scale, a matter of relationships within that scale.

I am not so sure that this thing could not have been one-half the size.

MR. ORR: The scale would add materially.

MR. WALKER: Just imagine being in the Yale Bowl. I just couldn't imagine being in the Yale Bowl without being

19th century.

I am not longer in that position of course, but
early 19th century, great interest in the
class.

I want to find out what they are doing
willing to try to find it.

MR. HUNT: The title of the book is...

MR. HUNT: That is right.

MR. HUNT: We are concerned with the
on the spot and all of us would like to see that movement
and learn how it would affect the country.

Knows or some kind of the movement, the work of the
or something like that -- the book is about it, but not sure.

CHAIRMAN: I agree with you there. It

might have been rather an interesting movement in England or
on the ground, but I don't think it is in the United States
was designed for.

MR. WILSON: It is a pretty good book.

matter of relationship with the world.

I am not so sure that this book would not be

been one-half the size.

MR. HUNT: The book would not be too small.

MR. HUNT: That is the book in the Yale Press.

I just couldn't imagine being in the Yale Press and not

terribly alone.

That was the dimension that we were supposed to submit to a man like -- I have been many times in Washington, alone, going into places alone, and finding magnitude and pleasure and so on, and so forth, and being there early in the morning at the Freer Gallery when there was no one in the Gallery except the guards, I have been there so many times, and felt alone because the scale is pleasant.

But this thing has just been terrific.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I think we all felt that.

MR. WALKER: I think we have got to not explain. We have got to definitely say that our position was not that we thought that the thing was inappropriate from the standpoint of its inherent design but from all the extraneous things around it.

MR. ORR: What I think we tried to get these boys to do was to bring their concept into proper scale, proper relationship to the other monuments and perhaps use some other material.

MR. WALKER: And the scale of the place in Washington.

MR. ORR: Exactly.

MR. WALKER: This they could have done, too. I think they were clever boys.

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Page 100

think they were either boys.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: In the final statement we said that it was not recommended without prejudice.. If we used the words "without prejudice", so we did not condemn it as a design.

MR. WALKER: Did they quote that?

MR. HURD: Yes, in quotes, as if they didn't know what we meant.

What do you think its chances are of passing the present Congress over our heads.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: I don't think it will pass.

MR. WALKER: They use Eero Saarinen's Institute competition, turned down years and years ago, and I was in that competition so I don't think there was a great deal of interest, in retrospect; it was a pretty bad job. Joe Hudnut was feeling his oats and Walter Gropius.

MR. ORR: He acknowledged that in later years. He said he wouldn't do it if he had it to do today.

MR. WALKER: A WPA, or something like that.

Have you ever been through that? I was through it the other day.

MR. ORR: On Idlewild? I have seen it.

MR. WALKER: A wormway of tunnel, an intestinal thing.

MR. HURD: Who did that?

CHARLES FINE: On the final statement we made

that it was not mentioned at that time. It was
the word "without prejudice", as we said, and we have it as a
design.

MR. WALKER: The same, could that?

MR. FINE: Yes, in quotes, as it says in the

with us meant.

What do you think the chances are of making the

present business over our heads.

CHARLES FINE: I don't think it will.

MR. WALKER: They are going to make it.

competition, turned down years ago, and we have
that competition so I don't think there was a great deal of
interest in the project; it was a very low bid. The money
was feeling its way out and it's coming.

MR. FINE: He is suggesting that in 1930, when

and he wouldn't do it if he had it to do again.

MR. WALKER: A very low bidding bid.

Have you ever seen through that? I was through it

the other day.

MR. FINE: On following, I have seen it.

MR. WALKER: A word of advice, no interest

being.

MR. FINE: Who does that?

COMPARATIVE DRAFT

The text shown below is basically the order draft relating to the Fine Arts Commission as accepted by the Commission per the Chairman's letter of 10-2-61. ^{1/} However, certain changes therein now proposed by the Bureau of the Budget are also shown; text proposed to be added to the basic text mentioned above is underscored (disregard catchlines), and text proposed to be deleted therefrom is bracketed and stricken.

* * * * *

EXECUTIVE ORDER

PROVIDING FOR THE REFERRAL TO THE COMMISSION
OF FINE ARTS OF CERTAIN MATTERS RELATING TO
PUBLIC STRUCTURES AND PARKS

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Act of May 17, 1910 (36 Stat. 371; 40 U.S.C. 104), and as President of the United States, it is ordered as follows:

Section 1. Requests for comments and advice. Whenever plans are prepared for any important new public structure ~~[or-park]~~ or for any important new park , or for important changes in an existing public structure ~~[or-park]~~ , and the new or changed public structure or park will in any essential way affect the appearance of the District of Columbia or of any of the other areas affected

^{1/} Being the same as the Bureau of the Budget draft as referred to agencies 8-31-61 except for section 4 (as to statement of reasons for nonacceptance of Commission's advice).

by this order, the officer or body of the executive branch of the Federal Government or of the municipal government of the District of Columbia having charge thereof shall submit a copy of the plans to the Commission of Fine Arts, before the officer or body finally approves such plans, and shall request the Commission to furnish the submitting officer or body the comments and advice of the Commission as to the merits of the design of the public structures or parks in respect of questions of art, including the effect upon the appearance of the District of Columbia or other area. As used above, the term "new public structure" includes a new public structure in a new park or in an existing park and the term "existing public structure" includes an existing public structure in an existing park.

Section 2. Geographic scope. The provisions of Section 1 of this order apply to the area comprising the District of Columbia, and, in respect of officers or bodies of the executive branch of the Government, ~~{apply-additionally-to-an-area-consisting-of-Arlington,-Fairfax,-Loudon-and-Prince-William-counties-in-Virginia,-Montgomery-and-Prince-Georges-counties-in-Maryland,-and-all-cities-located-in--Maryland-or-Virginia-within-the-area-bounded-by-the-outer-boundaries-of-the-combined-area-of-said-counties}-~~ also to an area consisting of all cities, communities and lands located in Maryland or Virginia within the area bounded by a line established outside the Capitol Beltway highway system one thousand feet from the line of the outer edge of the pavement of the traffic lane farthest from the Capitol .

Section 3. Timely action. (a) In the interest of minimizing delay, plans shall be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts under Section 1 of this order at such time as will afford the Commission reasonable opportunity to determine, formulate, and transmit its comments and advice in pursuance of the provisions of that section .

(b) ~~{The Commission shall transmit to the requesting officer or body its comments and advice with respect to any plans submitted to it, under Section 1, as promptly after receipt of the request as is consonant with the furnishing of proper comments and advice}~~ As promptly after the date on which the Commission receives any plans under the provisions of Section 1 of this order as may be consonant with proper consideration thereof by the Commission, and in any event within sixty calendar days next following that date, the Commission shall deliver to the requesting officer or body its comments and advice, as described in Section 1 hereof, with respect to the plans so received.

(c) In any instance in which the comments and advice of the Commission are not delivered by it within the period indicated in subsection (b) of this section, the officer or body having charge of the matter submitted to the Commission may proceed therewith at any time after the expiration of that period .

Section 4. Reports in special cases. In any instance in which the Federal or District of Columbia officer or body in charge of the affected work determines that the recommendation of the Commission

of Fine Arts will not be followed such officer ~~[shall advise the Commission in writing his reasons why such recommendation will not be followed]~~ or body timely shall (1) inform the Commission thereof in writing, (2) furnish the Commission information or an expression of views in respect of the considerations which militated against adoption of the recommendation of the Commission, and (3) transmit to the Commission a copy of the final plans pertaining to that instance .

Section 5. Prior orders. To the extent that they relate to the matters affected by the foregoing provisions of this order, and except as they may heretofore have been rendered inapplicable, the following are hereby superseded:

- (1) Executive Order No. 1259 of October 25, 1910.
- (2) The direction of the President with respect to the improvement of grounds, dated February 2, 1912.
- (3) Executive Order No. 1862 of November 28, 1913.
- (4) Executive Order No. 3524 of July 28, 1921.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

20 April 1962

Dear Mr. Bell:

I wish to thank you for sending me a copy of the latest revision of the proposed Executive Order which was requested by the Commission of Fine Arts to define further the duties of the Commission and the scope of its work. The Commission's only purpose in asking for such an Order was to make its work more effective and to place the services of its members at the disposal of the Government for public buildings erected in the area of Metropolitan Washington, rather than to confine them to the District of Columbia as at present.

When the latest draft Order was studied by the Commission at its meeting on April 17th, the members concluded that the draft in its present form would not be helpful to the Commission in its work, and have asked me to request that it not be circulated again to the various departments and agencies of the Government or presented to The President for his signature. The members felt that it was particularly important that no part of the previous Executive Orders should be repealed, as this might introduce confusion into the duties of the Commission as now understood by government agencies and the public.

The members asked me to thank you and your staff for the efforts which you have made in preparing the draft and to say that they feel no further efforts should be made at this time. They would be interested in seeing the reports, or a summation of the reports, from the various department and agencies of the government to which the Bureau of the Budget referred the draft order in August 1961. It would be helpful to the Commission of Fine Arts to study these reports and at some later time, perhaps, we could supply an answer to the objections or misunderstandings which may have resulted in the changes and additions incorporated in the latest draft.

In addition to transmitting the thanks of the Commission, I wish to add my personal appreciation of the efforts which you and other members of the staff of the Bureau of the Budget have made in our behalf.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

The Honorable David E. Bell
Director
Bureau of the Budget
Washington 25, D. C.

Finley	_____
Wilson	_____
Atherton	_____
Martin	_____
Bennett	_____
Luskey	_____
Shaw	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

27 April 1962

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on April 17, 1962, conferred further with your special assistant, Mr. Daniel P. Moynihan, regarding a report on architectural standards for Federal buildings, which the Special Cabinet Committee on Federal Office Space is preparing to submit to the President.

Mr. Moynihan told the members of the progress being made on the report and stated that it would recommend the establishment of a Presidential Committee for the rehabilitation of Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, whose membership would be selected from pertinent governmental agencies, the American Institute of Architects, and local private organizations. The general objectives of the Committee would be to advance the transformation of Pennsylvania Avenue through completion of the unfinished portions of the Federal Triangle and to bring about construction of new governmental and private commercial buildings on the north side of the Avenue, in a setting of new parks, statuary, fountains, etc.

The Commission of Fine Arts would welcome a concerted effort by the Administration to continue the transformation of Pennsylvania Avenue. In order to prepare the finest master plan that can be devised, the organizational structure of whatever group prepares the plan would be of the utmost importance.

The excellence of the McMillan Plan of 1901 and the Federal Triangle Plan of 1927 was to a large degree achieved because a small group of very talented men were directed to prepare the best plans they could devise. We believe that a similar approach should be made to a master plan for the redevelopment of the area adjacent to Pennsylvania Avenue.

Our professional experience has been that a small group of civilian experts singularly devoted to the same purpose, can achieve much more than a large group of persons composed of individuals representing conflicting points of view. The success of the McMillan Commission (four members) and the Committee on the Federal Triangle (five members) would appear to confirm this fact. The primary function of the local federal and civic groups should be confined to giving requested advice and assistance in their respective fields of interest, and to performing their necessary administrative functions in carrying out the master plan as it is finally approved.

The members of the Commission recommended, therefore, that the Cabinet Committee give serious consideration to giving the responsibility of preparing a master plan to a small Presidential Commission composed of architects and planners of outstanding national reputation, rather than deciding on a larger body of representatives of local federal and civic organizations. The advice of the various planning agencies and interested civic groups should certainly be sought in the developing of the overall plan, but the Presidential Commission, rather than the planning agencies and civic groups, should have the authority to make all of the final decisions as to what goes into the plan.

The Commission of Fine Arts looks forward to being of service in whatever role may be assigned to it by the President's Committee and expresses its pleasure that the project is soon to be underway.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Arthur Goldberg
The Secretary of Labor
Department of Labor
Washington 25, D.C.

2 May 1962

Dear Colonel Temple:

I am writing regarding the proposed design for the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal which was received on April 16, 1962, for consideration by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on April 18th.

I regret that the Commission was unable to complete their review of this design because Mr. Felix W. de Weldon, the sculptor member of the Commission, was abroad at the time of the meeting. The members concluded that they should have the benefit of his skill and knowledge before making any recommendation on the design. The design will be considered at the May 16th meeting of the Commission and we will advise you of the Commission's recommendations as soon as possible thereafter.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Colonel Harry D. Temple
Commanding Officer
Institute of Heraldry
Cameron Station
5010 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT APPLICATIONS SINCE 3/20/62

4/17/62

<u>NO</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
2488	612-17th St., NW Jos. Weeda (Bldg. & Loan Assn.)	New facade (granite & marble); no increase in size.
ACTION:	Ret'd. for clarification of window treatment, front elevation. Also suggest selection of materials be simplified, substituting shades of gray for red granite & black & gold marble. Latter will not sufficiently withstand weather. Eliminate insignia, 4/12/62.	
2489	209-209½ Penna. Ave., SE Ralph Given, et al (commercial)	Remove projecting showwindows, install flat plate glass. Replace doors, rebuild transoms.
ACTION:	App'd., 4/12/62.	
2490	2815 Ellicott St., NW Dr & Mrs Philip Burka	2-story split level residence; face brick on lower part, vertical siding on upper part.
ACTION:	Ret'd. for add'l. study of porch constr. Suggest post supports for porch set back in line with steps, cantilevering decking approx. 3', 4/12/62.	
2491	1345 E St., NW Republic Savings & Loan Co.	Rev. of SL 2487. 1 s-f sign. 1st line: gold anodized alum. ltrs., back-lighted. 2nd line: white plastic cut-out ltrs., back-lighted on gold anodized alum. bckgd.
ACTION:	App'd. as revised on drawing dtd. 3/24/62, 3/28/62.	
2492	1331 E St., NW Doubleday Book Shop	Rev. to SL 2471. 1 s-f sign. 18" x 11'-6". Back-lighted cut-out ltrs. White.
ACTION:	App'd., provided faces of ltrs. are opaque, not translucent, material, 4/6/62.	
2493	4821 Colorado Ave., NW Embassy of Sierra Leone	(1) Erect 2-story addn. to rear of bldg. (brick to match) all exterior cornice & trim shall be painted to match exist. colors. (2) Erect addn. to garage, 6' longer.
ACTION:	Although design would otherwise be unacceptable, no obj. as it is largely hidden from park view, 4/12/62.	

<u>NO</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
2494	201 Penna. Ave., SE Metropolis Bldg. Assn.	Cut opening in outside wall & install night depository on Penna. Ave.
ACTION:	App'd., 4/5/62.	
2495	227 Penna. Ave., SE Harvey Weinstein (Store)	Replace exist. entr. with new entr.
ACTION:	App'd., 4/12/62.	
2496	223 Penna. Ave., SE J. Zagami (Restaurant & office)	Replace exist. showwindow & canopy construction with new front.
ACTION:	Disap'd; recom. using a single material that is less residential in character than ashlar stone and horizontal siding. Also retain exist. cornice, which is a continuation of adjoining bldg. on left, 4/12/62.	
2497	1606 So. Portal Dr., NW Washington Devel. Co., Inc.	Erect 2-story masonry & frame residence; erect 4' brick ret. wall.
ACTION:	App'd., provided brick be substituted for wood siding, left-side elevation. Also increase width of brick chimney, & eliminate slope on offset, right-side elevation, 4/12/62.	
2498	1620 So. Portal Dr., NW Washington Devel. Co., Inc.	Erect 2-story masonry & frame residence; erect 4' brick & stone ret. wall.
ACTION:	App'd., provided brick be substituted for wood siding, right-side elevation. Also increase width of brick chimney & eliminate slope on offset, left-side elevation, 4/12/62.	
2499	1624 So. Portal Dr., NW Washington Devel. Co., Inc.	Erect 2-story masonry & frame residence; erect 4' brick & stone ret. wall.
ACTION:	Same as SL 2498.	
2500	1630 So. Portal Dr., NW Washington Devel. Co., Inc.	Erect 2-story masonry & frame residence; erect 4' brick & stone ret. wall.
ACTION:	Same as SL 2498.	

NO ADDRESS AND OWNER

PROJECT

3120 1201-34th St., NW Install 1 black canvas vinyl awning over door; suspended from bldg. with fixed iron frames.
Wess & Cabollo, Inc. (Restaurant)
ACTION: Recom'd., provided awning be shed-type with solid-color canvas other than black, 3/27/62.

3121 1601 Wisc. Ave., NW New gasoline service station to replace exist.
Gulf Oil Corp. Service Station
ACTION: Not recom'd. Suggest the following changes be incorporated into a revised design: Rear elevation to be surfaced with brick to match other elevations; substitute rectangular windows for circular sash, left-side elevation; lights in showwindow, left & front elevation, to be approx. 13" wide by 18" high, mullions not to exceed 1" in width; substitute rectangular windows on right-side elevation with lower sill, lights to match those of adjacent door. Also recom. increasing overhang of fascia across front & rear elevations, 3/27/62.

3122 1648-32nd St., NW 7' pink Georgian brick fence.
J. F. Harris, III
ACTION: Recom'd., provided height of brick fence be reduced to 3', 3/27/62.

3123 1310-27th St., NW Rev. of OG 3053. Install light over front entrance.
Rebecca Spatz
ACTION: Recom'd., 3/27/62.

3124 1226-36th St., NW Rev. to OG 2949. Provide louvered openings for fresh air
McCooley's Restaurant (Georgetown U.) intakes.
ACTION: Recom'd., 3/27/62.

Statement of the Commission of Fine Arts Before a Hearing of
The Zoning Commission, 13 April 1962

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on March 20th unanimously expressed their disappointment with the preliminary plans and designs for the proposed Watergate Town apartment and office complex which would be located on a triangular area in Northwest Washington, bounded by New Hampshire and Virginia Avenues, 25th Street and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway.

The site is of particular significance in the plan of the city, bordering Rock Creek Park, and adjoining the lands authorized by Congress National for the construction of a Cultural Center. Situated only a short distance to the south is the Lincoln Memorial.

The Commission has been expressing its misgivings about the design since sketch plans for these buildings were submitted for preliminary review by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia Government on August 9, 1961. At that time the members of the Commission discussed the scope of the entire project with the representatives of the development corporation and the architects.

In its initial study of the architectural plans, the Commission was primarily concerned with the density of land coverage of the proposed structures in relation to the physical size of the site. They believed that the maximum park character should be preserved in any new project in this location; and they have reported on October 2, 1961 to the District Of Columbia Commissioners and on October 24, 1961 to the Zoning Commission their opposition to the small proportion of open area which

would remain as public space. The architects in turn replied that the plan would provide nearly one and one half times the amount of open area as presently allowed under existing zoning, or a proposed 45% coverage of buildings as opposed to 75% coverage possible under current regulations. Such a comparison, however, ignores the great amount of open public space that is represented by the existing street system. If this amount of open public space is taken into consideration, as it certainly should for fair comparison of the two schemes, it will be seen that the proposed plan for the new construction would leave only approximately 5% more open public space than the minimum allowed under existing zoning. The Commission does not agree therefore with the architects' contention that the open park-like character of adjoining lands has been extended into the site plan of the building project.

In addition the Commission has carefully studied the architectural designs for the project and is greatly concerned over the height and the character of the proposed structures. A nearly continuous wall of building would extend from the southern boundary of the triangular site, north on New Hampshire Avenue to Virginia Avenue, and west on Virginia Avenue to Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. The buildings would rise to their minimum height of 130 feet at the intersection of Virginia Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue, and to nearly ⁵165 feet along the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. The designs of the building masses would be strongly sculptural in their derivation, with sweeping curvilinear forms focused toward the Potomac River and Theodore Roosevelt Island and away from the rest of the city. A continuous arrangement of building masses along Virginia Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue, rising to such an extended

height, would, for all intents and purposes, shut off the important views of the Potomac River and Roosevelt Island from the surrounding area. In turn the overpowering mass of the total composition, as seen along the vistas from major approaches to the city, would be the dominant feature of the landscape, overshadowing the great public monuments nearby.

In the developers' own words, as contained in the illustrated brochure describing the proposals, the Watergate Town is to be a "city within a city, a showplace for Washington and a daring development."

The Commission of Fine Arts recognizes the desirability of providing living facilities in such a unique location close to important employment centers in the city, but disagrees entirely in the concept of providing such a dramatic contrast with the character of the surrounding area. The height and the curvilinear forms of the composition bear little or no relation to the rest of the city, as can clearly be seen in an examination of the photographs which show the model superimposed on the boundaries of the actual site.

The Commission adheres to the principle that large scale developments should be subordinate to the city as a whole, especially in instances where the site is of such prominence and in close proximity to important monumental areas. In the opinion of the Commission this project seeks to do the opposite and has been conceived as a self-contained entity or "a city within a city". "As a show piece", its primary effect is to invite attention, not to complement and fit into the surrounding area.

Under the Shipstead-Luce Act of 1931 the Commission of Fine Arts has been charged by the Congress to review all construction that might

encroach on or mar the Federal area. The Congress decreed in this public law that the development of the City of Washington should proceed along the lines of good order, good taste, and with due regard to the public interests involved, and directed the Commission of Fine Arts to recommend such changes as in its judgment are necessary to prevent reasonably avoidable impairment of the public values belonging to public buildings and parks.

The members of the Commission believe that it is entirely possible to design a distinguished group of buildings that would provide for similar facilities in this location, and yet conform to the existing height limitations and other established zoning measures. These zoning measures were passed for good reason to provide for continuity in scale and other architectural effects that comprise the fabric of the city of Washington.

To depart radically from this framework is to invite a chaotic disharmony to the architectural growth of the city plan, not only for this location but for other parts of Washington as well. In short it will begin to erode and destroy the qualities that give Washington its particular beauty.

The Commission has asked me to say that they will be glad to discuss these matters with one or more members of the Zoning Commission at the next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on April 18th.

EXISTING PUBLIC SPACE STUDY

153,000

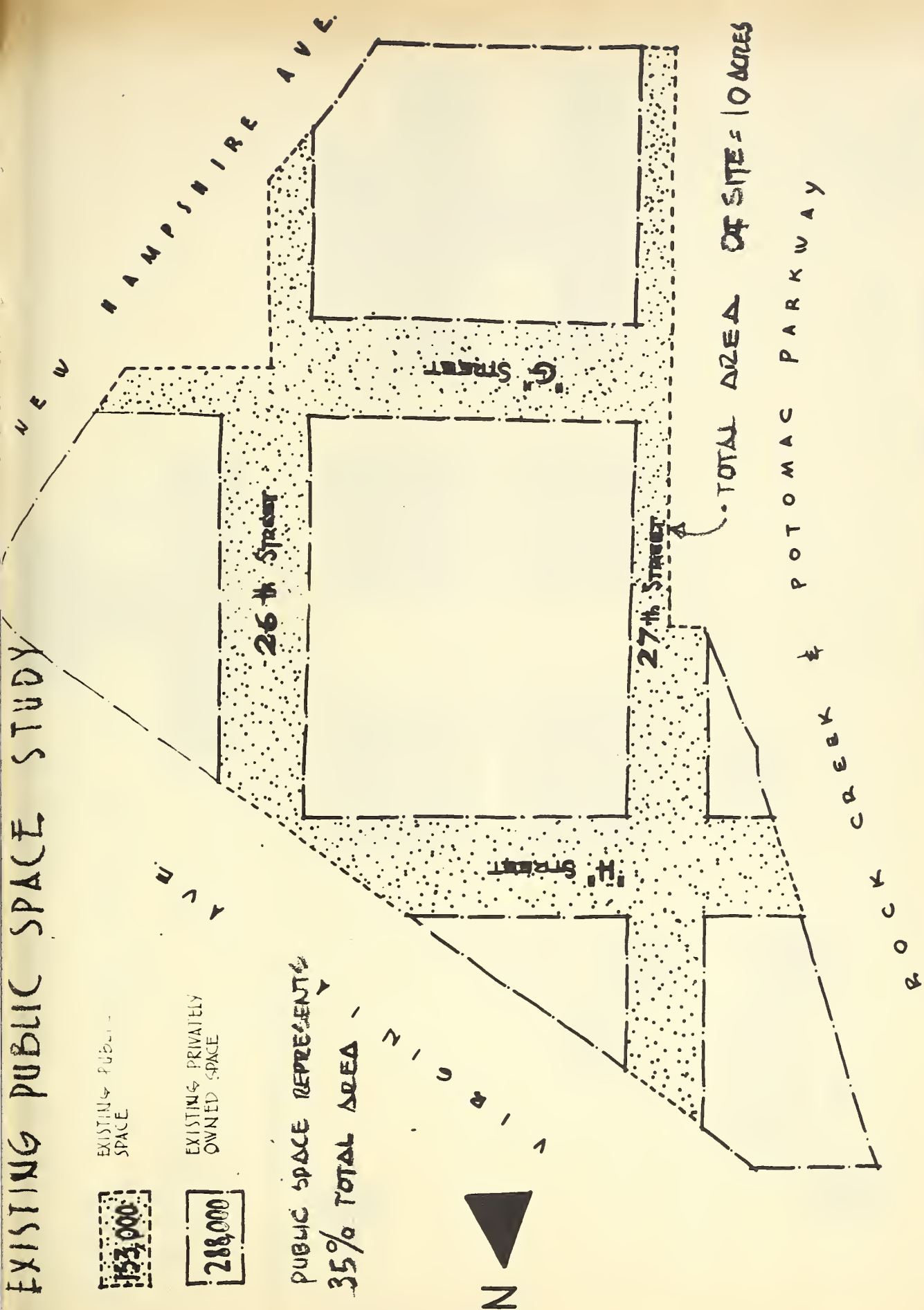
EXISTING PUBLIC SPACE

288,000

EXISTING PRIVATELY OWNED SPACE

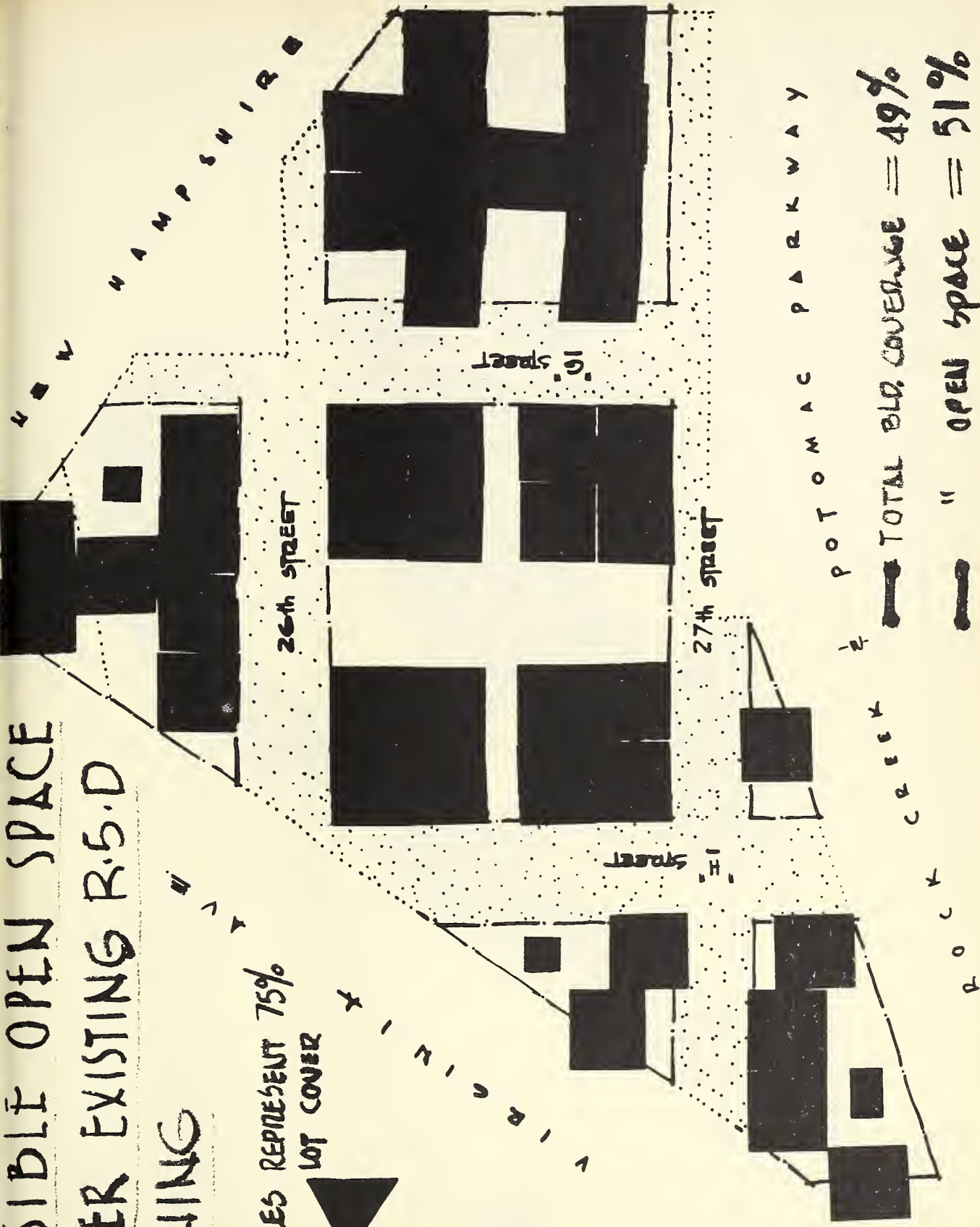
PUBLIC SPACE REPRESENTS

35% TOTAL AREA



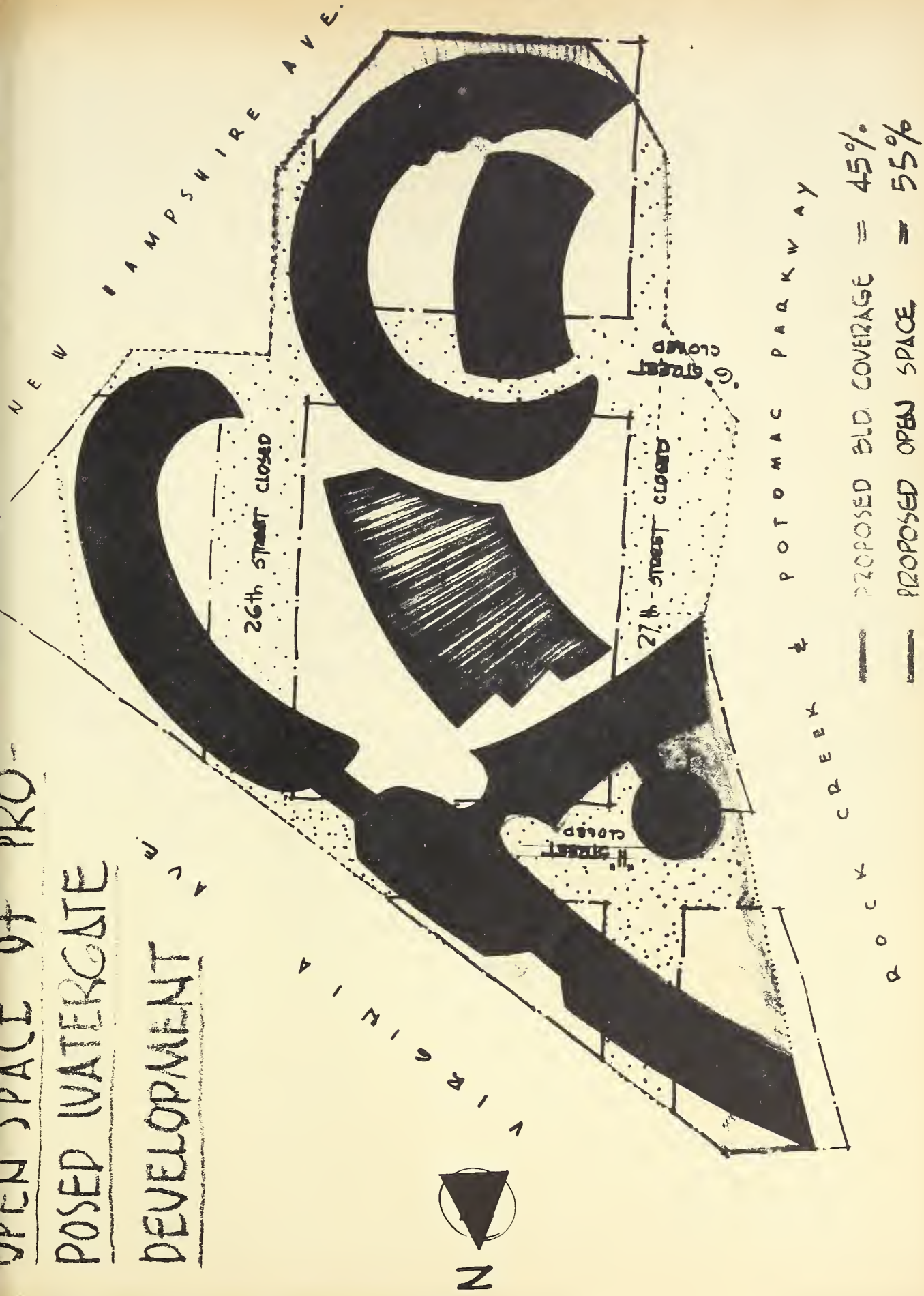
POSSIBLE OPEN SPACE UNDER EXISTING R.S.D ZONING

SQUARES REPRESENT 75%
LOT COVER



 TOTAL BLD. COVERAGE = 49%
 " OPEN SPACE = 51%

OPEN SPACE OF PRO- POSED WATERGATE DEVELOPMENT



Commission of Fine Arts
Staff Report on
Watergate Town Development

Virginia Avenue, New Hampshire Avenue, Rock Creek Potomac Parkway

The staff, at the request of the Commission, has studied the following aspects of the proposed project:

- a. SITE DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACE
- b. DENSITY OF OCCUPANCY AND USEAGE
- c. HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS
- d. ECONOMIC BASE ANALYSIS
- A. SITE DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

The proposed site, bounded by Virginia Avenue, New Hampshire Avenue and Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, comprises an area of approximately 10 acres. Of this amount nearly 153,000 square feet would be obtained through the closing of "H" Street, "G" Street, 26th and 27th Streets, or nearly 36% of the total 441,500 square feet.

Proponents of the project argue that this additional land permits a freer use of space, allows greater opportunity for openness and extends the character of park-like surroundings into the site plan itself. Basing their calculations on the lot coverage contained within the entire 10 acre site, they show that buildings occupy only 45% of the space available, or a total of 187,960 square feet. Compared to the existing R.5.D zoning regulations which allow 75% lot coverage, it would appear, at first glance, that the developers are providing considerably more open space than would be possible under existing zoning. It must be remembered, however, that this comparison fails to consider the open space of the streets and tree-lawns that would exist within a project constructed within the allowable limits of R.5.D. zoning. If this amount of space, 153,000 square feet, plus the 25% additional open space required under

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existing zoning, is compared to the total open space provided in the Watergate plans, it will be seen that the latter provides only 4-5% more open space than could be achieved under present limitations.

R-5-D Zoning Allowances

Minimum open area required on private property -	72,000 sq. ft.
Open area provided by streets and tree-lawns -	<u>153,000 sq. ft.</u>
Total minimum open area	225,000 sq. ft.

Watergate Proposal

Maximum open space provided (approximately 4-5% above minimum)	233,040 sq. ft.
--	-----------------

b. DENSITY OF OCCUPANCY AND USEAGE

Typical figures, obtained from the Zoning Office of the D.C. Government, indicate an average density of from 200-300 people per acre for high rent, high density apartment dwellings constructed under R-5-D regulations. Using conservative estimates of occupancy for the number of dwelling spaces, the commercial space, and the daytime office space, there results a figure more closely approximating 450-550 persons per acre. The calculations are listed as follows:

1400 dwelling units @ 2.0 persons per unit	2,800 persons
350 hotel suites @ 2 persons per unit	700 persons
198,000 sq. ft. office space @ 1.0 per 200 sq. ft.	1,000 persons
56,000 sq. ft. commercial space @ 1. per sq. ft.	<u>110 persons</u>
Total	4,610 persons
4,610 persons per 10 acres	
Density per acre - - - - -	461 persons

1. The first step is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the situation.

... ..

14,00 dwelling units @ 2.5 persons per unit	3,500 persons
350 hotel suites @ 2.0 persons per unit	700 persons
198,000 sq. ft. offices @ 1.0 persons per 150 sq. ft.	1,500 persons
56,000 sq. ft. commercial @ 1.0 persons per 500 sq. ft.	<u>112 persons</u>
Total	5,810 persons
5,810 persons per ten acres	
Density per acre - - - - -	581 persons

It is misleading to argue, as the developers do, that the density of the proposed project is only 84% of the Floor Area ratio of six, as allowed under the existing zoning. Again this figure is based on the entire ten acre site and ignores the open area represented by streets under R-5-D zoning scheme. Taking the site as it exists now, that is, the total lot coverage of 288,000 square feet, multiplied by the allowable Floor Area Ratio of six, one would be limited to build 1,728,000 square feet of useable floor space above grade. The proposed Watergate project, however, would provide 2,124,070 square feet, or 396,000 square feet of useable floor space in excess of the maximum presently allowed, an approximate increase of 23%.

In addition to the above investigation, a comparison of the number of dwelling units per acre (excluding all daytime office and commercial use) was made with the superblock developments of a similar nature in Southwest Washington. There the greatest density of occupancy is approximately 55-60 units per acre. In the proposed Columbia Plaza development, the number of dwelling units per acre is approximately the same, but there the maximum FAR is 4, the maximum lot coverage is 40%, and there is no office building housing an additional 1000 persons.

c. HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS

Heights of the proposed buildings vary from a minimum of 130' above

grade at the intersection of Virginia Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue, and, because of the sloping grade toward the river, to a height of 157' above the intersection of Virginia Avenue and Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. To this 157' height, there would be the added 17' height of the penthouse structure, or a total of 174' above the grade of the parkway. Approximately a 16' difference in height exists between the parkway grade and the mean level of the Potomac River, making the height over the river roughly 190'.

The Lincoln Memorial, situated a short distance to the south, is approximately 100' above the surrounding circular roadway, and another 40' or so above the river.

d. ECONOMIC BASE ANALYSIS

The total area of 288,000 square feet acquired by the Island Vista Corporation, cost, according to public statements, seven million dollars, or roughly \$24 per square foot. Such is an expensive price, but not unusual for land so prominently situated, according to other local real estate representatives. If the area in present ownership were added to the total amount of land assembled by closing the streets, the cost per square foot would be considerably reduced. In fact, it would be less than \$16.40 per square foot, or considerably below its real market value.

$$\begin{array}{l} \$7,000,000 - \text{total cost} \\ 428,000 \text{ sq. ft. project area} = \$16.40 \text{ per sq.ft.} \end{array}$$

At the rate paid by the developer the monetary value of existing public space of 153,500 square feet would be approximately \$3,684,000.

2 May 1962

Dear Mr. Tobriner:

We understand that the owners and developers of property on 15th Street, facing the Treasury Department, wish to amend the building height limitations in the area to allow commercial buildings to rise to a height of 130 feet. As you know, no private or commercial building in this area facing the Treasury rises to a height of more than 110 feet.

The Commission of Fine Arts is concerned with the aesthetic factor involved in a building to be constructed so near the Treasury and The White House. The members are concerned with the height of such buildings, regardless of the legal, financial or technical aspects of building height limitations. The City of Washington has a relatively low construction now which has greatly added to the order and dignity of the city, with the Capitol as the dominating feature among the buildings here.

It has been the policy of the Commission since 1916 not to encourage a rise in the height of buildings of a private or semi-public nature in the vicinity of public buildings, such as The White House, the Capitol and the Treasury. The Commission is of the opinion that commercial buildings 130 feet in height, in the vicinity of the Treasury, would adversely impair the public values belonging to that building.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation did not request that it be allowed to construct a building 130 feet high on its property at 17th Street and New York Avenue, N.W. across the street from the State, War and Navy Building, which is now the Executive Office Building. The Insurance Corporation was willing to limit the height of its building to 90 feet as permitted by the current building code. As a result the mass and architectural treatment of the building will be in harmony with the nearby Executive Office Building.

If one or more buildings on 15th Street opposite the Treasury are allowed to rise to a height of 130 feet, this would constitute a precedent which, it would seem, could not be ignored in future applications. The Commission of Fine Arts hopes that this matter will be given careful consideration by the Commissioners and the Zoning Commission when any applications may be made for such increase in height.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Walter Tobriner
President
Board of Commissioners of the
District of Columbia
Washington 4, D. C.

1941

Dear Mr. [Name]

I am very sorry to hear that you are not well. I hope you will soon be able to get back to work. I am sure you will be able to do so.

The Committee on the part of the Government is very anxious to see you. I am sure you will be able to do so. I am sure you will be able to do so.

I am sure you will be able to do so. I am sure you will be able to do so. I am sure you will be able to do so.

I am sure you will be able to do so. I am sure you will be able to do so. I am sure you will be able to do so.

I am sure you will be able to do so. I am sure you will be able to do so. I am sure you will be able to do so.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

[Signature]

Director of the Bureau of
Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

27 April 1962

Dear Mrs. Rowe:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on April 17, 1962, considered the proposed revisions to the official plat outlining the boundaries of the Shipstead-Luce Act, as approved by the National Capital Planning Commission at its meeting on April 5, 1962. Mr. Ellis Price, Chief, Federal Projects Planning, gave the members an explanation of the revisions, and stated that the plat now showed all the changes recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts, except the area directly north of Fort McNair. Having been eliminated by the Congress previous to passage of the Shipstead-Luce Act, protection to this area would require amendment of an Act by Congress.

The Commission was pleased to note that the National Capital Planning Commission had approved the revisions to the plat suggested by the Commission of Fine Arts, and that the changes were now to be referred to the District Commissioners for their consideration and action.

The members of the Commission have asked me to thank you and the other members of the Planning Commission for your cooperation in this matter.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Mrs. James H. Rowe, Jr.
Chairman
National Capital Planning Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

EXHIBIT P

<u>NO</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
3125	3001 P St., NW Jos. & Leah Schenick	Replace glass door with 6-panel door with 2 lights.
ACTION:	Recommended, 3/30/62.	
3126	Cecil Pl. & K St., NW Royco, Inc. (Maloney Conc. Co.)	Erect machinery equipment - portable concrete batch plant, incl. 11' diam. cement bin, & 3-compartment aggregate bin & conveyor.
ACTION:	No obj. to proposed mechanical equip., provided all visible parts of the equip. be painted a medium value neutral color such as gray or tan, 4/3/62.	
3127	1426 Wisc. Ave., NW London Cleaners	Rev. of OG 3119. Install new front on doorway to 2nd fl.
ACTION:	Recom'd. as revised on drawing dtd. 4/1/62, 4/3/62.	
3128	3426 Prospect St., NW Mrs Helen Lasser	Install light fixture on corner of house.
ACTION:	Not recom'd: proposed bracket & strap iron supports with upright lamp appears awkward in corner location. Suggest a more simple lamp mounted directly on wall, adjacent to window, about 8' above grade. Or, if corner location still preferred, recom. a pendant type light with a suitable mounting bracket, also about 8' high, 4/10/62.	
3129	3310 M St., NW Custom Speed Shop	1 s-f, 25 sq-ft sign. White ltrs., black bekd. Wood ltrs. mounted on expanded metal, flat to wall, non-illuminated.
ACTION:	Not recom'd; recom. sign be located in frieze over entr. & showwindows, all ltrs. to be same size. Substitute classical ltrs. for script & eliminate insignia. Suggest black ltrs. on white bekd., 4/10/62.	
3130	1639-35th St., NW Chas. W. Wenger	Install gas light fixture on post on owner's lot, inside property line.
ACTION:	Recom'd., 4/10/62.	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON OLD GEORGETOWN ACT APPLICATIONS SINCE 4/12/62 (Continued)

4/17/62

NO

ADDRESS AND OWNER

PROJECT

3131

2901 K St., NW
King Coal Co. (LeRoy O. King)

ACTION: No objection as temporary mechanical equipment, 4/16/62.

Remove exist. concrete loading plant, & place portable conc. loading plant on a reinforced conc. pad foundation. Made necessary by D. C. Highway Dept's. plan to construct street thru site of exist. plant. New portable plant will

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Washington 25, D. C.

April 5, 1962

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ZONING REGULATIONS - BALCONIES

MOTION recommending to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia the following amendments to the Zoning Regulations of the District of Columbia.

Section 1202 - Definitions

Building Area: the maximum horizontal projected area of a building and its accessory buildings. The term building area shall include all side yards and open courts less than five feet in width and all closed courts less than six feet in width. Except for open balconies this term shall not include any projections into open spaces authorized elsewhere in these regulations nor shall it include portions of a building which do not extend above the level of the main floor of the main building if so placed as not to obstruct light and ventilation of the main building or of buildings on adjoining property.

Gross Floor Area: the sum of the gross horizontal areas of the several floors of all buildings on the lot, measured from the exterior faces of exterior walls and from the center line of walls separating two buildings. The term gross floor area shall include basements, elevator shafts and stairwells at each story, floor space used for mechanical equipment (with structural headroom of six feet, six inches or more), penthouses, attic space (whether or not a floor has actually been laid, providing structural headroom of six feet, six inches or more), interior balconies, and mezzanines. The term gross floor area shall not include cellars, and open balconies which do not exceed a projection of 6 feet beyond the exterior walls of the building.

14 May 1962

Gentlemen:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts have asked me to write in regard to a proposal by the National Capital Planning Commission to amend Section 1202 - Definitions of the Zoning Regulations of the District of Columbia in certain respects.

We understand that the purpose of the proposed amendments would be to eliminate from the calculation of gross floor area those portions of a building utilized for open balconies which do not exceed a projection of 6 feet beyond the exterior walls of the building.

The Commission of Fine Arts has no objection to eliminating balconies from the computation of gross floor area, but we would like to point out that the provisions of the 1961 Building Code of the District of Columbia, Section 3-363 (b) (3), limit the projection of balconies to 3 feet from the building line on streets more than 60 and less than 70 feet wide, and to 4 feet from the building line on streets 70 feet or more in width. Thus, the permissible projection has a direct relationship to the width of the street.

The Commission has always maintained that, as a matter of aesthetics and the appearance of the city, it is important to restrict projections from buildings to a minimum. Unless there is a consistent relationship between the width of the street and the amount of projection the result could be chaotic. We believe that the above-noted limitation of the 1961 Building Code is based upon sound reasoning and should not be changed.

Therefore, the Commission, having carefully considered the matter, recommends that the present limitations under Section 3-363 be continued.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Zoning Commission
District of Columbia
District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

EXHIBIT R

GENERAL STATEMENT

The first legislative restriction with regard to the acquisition of sites for public buildings in the District of Columbia was contained in the Public Buildings Act of 1926 (44 Stat. 630). Subsequent amendments provided some enlargement and a more definitive delineation, particularly in the northwest portion.

Within the prescribed area are included most of the public buildings, constructed for housing the Federal Establishment in the National Capital area since 1926. Exceptions are the Pentagon, buildings at Suitland, Md., and the AEC and CIA buildings recently constructed at dispersed locations. In addition to the completed buildings, Federal office buildings Nos. 8, 9, and 10 are now under construction in the area, and sites have been selected for the authorized Federal office building No. 5 and the Government Printing Office field plant.

Section 8(a) of the Public Buildings Act of 1959 incorporated existing restrictions limiting the area in the District of Columbia within which the General Services Administration could acquire sites for public buildings under the act. Virtually all remaining land in the area has been developed or reserved for park and open area usages, roads, streets, and freeways, the Smithsonian Institution facilities along the Mall, and for other usages such as the Cultural Center and the Columbia Plaza high-rise housing project in the northwest portion.

The General Services Administration believes it necessary to enlarge the prescribed taking area in order to permit the timely selection and acquisition of suitable sites for proposed new public buildings. It is believed that removal of this taking area limitation for acquisition of building sites would result in a net savings to the Federal Government.

Existing laws require the General Services Administration to advise and consult with the National Capital Planning Commission, and the NCPC to consult with the National Capital Regional Planning Council, with respect to plans and proposed projects affecting the development of the National Capital area, and the location of Federal public buildings within the District of Columbia is subject to the approval of the National Capital Planning Commission. Thus, public building projects in the Washington metropolitan area are fully coordinated to conform with municipal and regional planning.

The following benefits will be realized from repeal of the taking area to permit selection of suitable sites:

1. Be in harmony with renewal and redevelopment projects now underway and proposed.
2. Be coordinated with plans for the proposed mass transit system.
3. Assure optimum land utilization for the various types of public buildings covered by the act.
4. Minimize intra-agency dispersion.
5. Permit acquisition of sites under the best market conditions.

DISCUSSION

When the original restriction on the taking area was adopted and carried forward in the Public Buildings Act of 1959, no great problem was presented. In the present stage of development of public building projects, other public works projects, and development of privately owned sites and increase in values, suitable building sites within the

taking area are scarce. Operating within a restrictive area, the Federal Government is in competition with itself as far as price is concerned.

Enactment of S. 3157 would free GSA from the present bonds of this restriction, and permit it, under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of 1959, to proceed as they would at any other location in the country to acquire a site at the most economical price which would be suitable for the needs of the particular public building. Under this procedure, in the selection of sites, recognition could be given to the traffic problems and various other factors that influence the selection of a site at the present time. The committee has approved proposed public buildings in the District of Columbia area, which probably will be located outside the presently authorized taking area, which locations cannot be utilized without amending such taking area.

The committee was advised by representatives of the General Services Administration that the building sites within the taking area in private ownership which could be acquired have been practically exhausted. It believes that a plan for wider distribution of the buildings for those agencies which must be housed in the metropolitan area of Washington, will permit better long-range use of these buildings. The committee favors the proposed corridor development, and the planning for departmental complexes in the interest of economy, aware of the fact that some departments will be located or grouped in the surrounding area outside Washington. This may be true of agencies which have less day-to-day contact with other agencies and the legislative branch. The committee believes that retention of the restriction on the taking area in the District of Columbia is not advisable, is uneconomical, and therefore recommends enactment of S. 3157, with the understanding, of course, that the responsibility of the GSA is not lessened in any manner, but when a project is approved by the committee, GSA can select a building site within the entire area without restrictions.

COST EFFECTS

The financial effect of the enactment of S. 3157 cannot be estimated, but it is believed that substantial savings to the Government would be realized in the acquisition of building sites in the District of Columbia if the limitation on the taking area is removed.

AGENCY COMMENTS

This legislation was requested by the General Services Administration, with the approval of the Bureau of the Budget, as indicated by the following communication:

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, D.C., April 2, 1962.

Hon. LYNDON B. JOHNSON,
President of the Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: There is transmitted herewith for referral to the appropriate committee a draft bill prepared by this agency to repeal subsection (a) of section 8 of the Public Buildings Act of 1959, limiting the area in the District of Columbia within which sites for public buildings may be acquired.

This proposal is a part of the legislative program of the General Services Administration for 1962.

Section 8(a) of the Public Buildings Act of 1959 limits the area in the District of Columbia within which sites for public buildings may be acquired under the act. Repeal of section 8(a) is being proposed due to the depletion of suitable sites within the prescribed taking area.

The first legislative restriction with regard to the acquisition of sites in the District of Columbia was contained in the Public Buildings Act of 1926, Public Law 281, 69th Congress, 44 Stat. 630. Subsequent amendments provided some enlargement and a more definitive delineation, particularly in the northwest portion. The 1959 act incorporated existing restrictions concerning the area within which the General Services Administration could acquire sites.

Within the prescribed area are included most of the public buildings constructed for housing the Federal establishment in the National Capital area since 1926. Notable exceptions are the Pentagon, buildings at Suitland, Md., and the AEC and CIA buildings recently constructed at dispersed locations. In addition to the completed facilities, Federal office buildings Nos. 8, 9, and 10 are now under construction in the area, and sites have been selected for the authorized Federal office building No. 5 project and the Government Printing Office field plant.

Virtually all remaining land in the area has been developed or reserved for park and open area usages, roads, streets, and freeways, the Smithsonian Institution facilities along the Mall, and for other usages such as the Cultural Center and the Columbia Plaza high-rise housing project in the northwest portion.

Accordingly, it is necessary to enlarge the prescribed taking area in order to permit the timely selection and acquisition of suitable sites for proposed new public buildings.

We consider that this can best be accomplished through repeal of section 8(a), thereby entirely eliminating the limitation. The National Capital Planning Act of 1952 requires the General Services Administration to advise and consult with the National Capital Planning Commission in the preparation of any agency construction plans which affect the planning and physical development of the National Capital area. It also directs the NCPC to advise and consult with the National Capital Regional Planning Council with respect to general plans and proposed projects. As a result, public building projects in the entire Washington metropolitan area are fully coordinated to establish conformity with municipal and regional planning and to assure compatibility with the orderly and long-range growth and development of the Capital City. In addition, under section 16 of the act of June 20, 1938 (52 Stat. 802), the location of Federal public buildings within the District of Columbia is subject to the approval of the National Capital Planning Commission.

We believe that repeal of the taking area is essential if GSA is to be in a position to select suitable sites which will—

1. Be in harmony with renewal and redevelopment projects now underway and proposed.
2. Be coordinated with plans for the proposed mass transit system.
3. Assure optimum land utilization for the various types of public buildings covered by the act.

4. Minimize intra-agency dispersion.

5. Permit acquisition of sites under the best market conditions.

For these reasons prompt and favorable consideration of the draft bill is recommended.

Although the financial effect of the enactment of the proposed legislation cannot be estimated, it is believed that a net savings to the Government would be realized in the acquisition of sites for public buildings within the District of Columbia if the taking area limitation were to be removed.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that, from the standpoint of the administration's program, there is no objection to the presentation of this proposed legislation to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

LAWSON B. KNOTT, Jr.,
Acting Administrator.

A BILL To repeal subsection (a) of section 8 of the Public Buildings Act of 1959, limiting the area in the District of Columbia within which sites for public buildings may be acquired

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (a) of section 8 of the Public Buildings Act of 1959 (73 Stat. 481; 40 U.S.C. 607(a)) is hereby repealed.

CHANGE IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill as reported are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 8 OF THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS ACT OF 1959

(40 U.S.C. 607)

SEC. 8. [(a) In carrying out his duties under this Act, the Administrator shall acquire real property within the District of Columbia exclusively within (1) the area bounded by E Street, New York Avenue, and Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, on the north; Delaware Avenue Southwest, on the east; Virginia Avenue and Maryland Avenue projected in a straight line to the Tidal Basin, Southwest, on the south; and the Potomac River on the west (including properties within said area belonging to the District of Columbia; but excluding those portions of squares 267, 268, and 298 not belonging to the District of Columbia, the square known as south of 463, all of square 493, lots 16, 17, 20, and 21 and 808 in square 536, and lots 16 and 45 in square 635); and (2) the areas designated as squares 11, 19, 20, 32, 33, 44, 59, and 167, all of said areas being within the District of Columbia.]

[(b)] (a) The purposes of this Act shall be carried out in the District of Columbia as nearly as may be practicable in harmony with the plan of Peter Charles L'Enfant and such public buildings shall be so constructed or altered as to combine architectural beauty with practical utility.

[(c)] (b) Whenever in constructing or altering a public building under this Act in the District of Columbia the Administrator determines that such construction or alteration requires the utilization of contiguous squares as a site for such building, such portions of streets as lie between such squares and such alleys as intersect such squares are authorized to be closed and vacated if such closing and vacating is mutually agreed to by the Administrator, the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and the National Capital Planning Commission. The portions of such streets and alleys so closed and vacated shall thereupon become part of such site.



